

Higher Learning

An Original Screenplay

by

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**New Deal Productions
From L.A.
South Central Cinema
Dealing A New Hand**

We hear a CHORUS of YOUNG CHILDREN SINGING the NATIONAL ANTHEM.

TITLE SEQUENCE: Higher Learning. MONTAGE OF BABY PICTURES of the young principal actors. *Song continues.

FADE IN:

EXT. COLUMBUS UNIVERSITY - ORIENTATION DAY - DAY

AN AMERICAN FLAG.

We come down on a CRANE from the FLAG past a BANNER which READS

"Welcome to Columbus University - Orientation Day."

There are many students, most are WHITE, all are walking about wide eyed and excited about the future prospects that university life holds for them. The BAND marches past leading us towards a STAGE where an ORIENTATION ADVISOR stands with a BULLHORN. He is RALLYING the CROWD. We hear the BAND throughout the following images.

ADVISOR

How many people came here to change the world?!

No response.

ADVISOR

How many came to learn how to make a lotta money?!!

The crowd CHEERS. Images of people CLAPPING. 36 f.p.s.

TRAVELLING THROUGH THE CROWD: We see people CLAPPING then they look towards CAMERA and move out the way then we PAN to another person who gives us a funny look and we SWING AROUND to reveal a young Black man, eighteen years of age, attentive, athletic build. The fire in his eyes tells us something is going on his head. This is MALIK WILLIAMS.

ANOTHER PART OF CAMPUS

We MOVE towards a GUY who SMILES at us then we SWING AROUND to reveal a young woman, brown eyes, auburn hair, eighteen years of age. This is KRISTEN CONNOR. She shyly smiles back at the guy and walks onward. Kristen wears a shirt which says GENERATION X.

A CROWD OF STUDENTS: OVERHEAD

We see many students watching the SCHOOL BAND and RALLY SQUAD. On a CRANE we come down and our attention is drawn to a FACE in the CROWD. We see a young man with a blond hair, deep blue eyes. This is REMY MARTIN. Freshman. He wears a shirt which says, "F--K PC". Bored with the spectacle. Remy WALKS OUT of the CROWD.

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INT. BOOK STORE - DAY

Students shopping for books, supplies, etc. We see Remy for shopping books.

We see an elevator ring out the first floor. The door opens and several students and a few parents exit. Kristen enters.

The elevator doors begin to close. A BLACK HAND stops it from closing. Malik SMILES and enters the elevator.

CLOSE ON KRISTEN AS WE TILT DOWN AND SHE TIGHTENS HER GRIP ON HER PURSE AND FROM THIS WE GO OVER TO SEE MALIK'S REACTION. MALIK SIMPLY SHAKES HIS HEAD.

INT. MALIK'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Where we see Malik sitting amongst BOXES of his belongings. He slowly RISES and PICKS up some HANGERS which hold various shirts and pants of his small wardrobe. Malik goes towards the CLOSET..

INT. KRISTEN'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Where a CLOSET DOOR OPENS and we reveal Kristen HANGING up some clothes in her empty closet.

ANGLE ON KRISTEN: As she Scotch tapes the back of some pictures of herself from the past. We see her brother, sister and parents.

INT. REMY'S DORM ROOM - DAY

We see some HANDS pull Scotch tape off and apply it to the back of a poster.

ANGLE ON REMY: As he smooths out the poster and we SWING AROUND TO REVEAL IT IS A KISS POSTER. Remy smiles.

Remy goes over to his BOXES and pulls out a few pair of Doc Martin's BOOTS. He places a few of them against the wall.

INT. MALIK'S ROOM - DAY

Where we travel LEFT to RIGHT past some tennis shoes up to Malik's face. He is arranging his own row of shoes. All the latest NIKES.

EXT. COLUMBUS CAMPUS - DAY

THROUGH A GATE

We START on a pair of RUNNING SHOES dangling. A wider view reveals they belong to Malik who walks past the track field. He turns the corner and we reveal

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EXT. THE TRACK FIELD - DAY

We are treated to various images of the track team as they prepare for their individual daily workouts. There are ATHLETES on the field stretching their leg muscles. A POLE VAULTER tests reaching his 'point' bending the pole without making a jump. We see the WOMEN'S TEAM with their long richly defined legs. And then there are the SPRINTERS all of whom are brothas. They are LAUGHING and JOKING talkin about pussy and other worldly subjects. One of them stands apart from the rest, without laughing. He is lean and mean and from the stride in his walk we can tell he is no joke on the field. This is RONNIE ROBERTSON. Also known as the 'ROCKET'.

THE FIELD: Where Malik completes his stretching exercises and takes to the track.

Malik runs around the track in a smooth stride.

ANGLE ON THE CURVE

As we see Malik come around and we PUSH IN on him as a MAN walks into the shot.

KENJI

Malik Williams! All City champion. What are you doing out here? Ready to run on my squad?

Malik shakes his head in the negative.

KENJI

Why are you here on the field then?

MALIK

Something to do. Nothing wrong with keeping in shape is there?

KENJI

Why don't you want to run on the team?

MALIK

Because thats what I'm expected to do. I just wanna concentrate on school. You know I got in here on the power of my mind, not my legs.

KENJI

Yeah I know your'e a smart kid. But it takes more than just that. How are you making it through?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK

Part academic, part loans, you know.
I'll be alright.

KENJI

(looks him up and down)
You should be running. What a waste of talent.

MALIK

I just came out here to stretch my legs.

Malik walks away.

Just as he crosses the track he runs into Rocket who finishes his buildup.

ROCKET

I thought you weren't coming here.

MALIK

I'm here but I'm not on the team so
you don't have to worry.

ROCKET

I ain't worried.

Malik looks at him and walks onward.

INT. KRISTEN'S DORM ROOM - DAY

We see a MONTAGE of Kristen's desk. Family, prom night, etc.
We PAN from this image to see a young sista, pretty green
eyes, short hair. This is MONET.

Monet SIGHS from looking at the pictures. Her face says it all.
White girl. Roommate. Why me?

Kristen comes through the door.

KRISTEN

Hello.

MONET

Hi. ...I liked that side of the room
but I guess you got here first.

KRISTEN

Yeah.

(she flops down on the bed)
I did.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MONET

...So where you from?

KRISTEN

Orange County.

MONET

Orange County? Is that near Compton?

KRISTEN

No. Its near Disneyland.

MONET

You live near Disneyland?

Kristen nods.

MONET

(looks her up and down)

Must be nice.

EXT. THE FRATERNITY ROW - NIGHT

Where we see mayhem on the street. There are cruising cars mostly Rabbit convertibles or BMW's . People are WHOOPING it up SCREAMING and PARTYING in every direction.*Shot starts from across the street, do it all in one setup.

We CRANE DOWN and center in on three white girls walking about and wide-eyed at their new environment. They are Kristen and her two new friends CLAUDIA, who is kinda sophisticated almost intellectual. And NICOLE, who is the classic blond bombshell, the kind looking for a rich husband who can put her in Malibu home and a new set of boobs.

NICOLE

I'm moving into an apartment next semester.

The dorms are for children.

(to Claudia)

You wanna room with me?

CLAUDIA

Yeah. My room is too small.

What about you Kristen?

Wanna get an apartment together?

KRISTEN

I don't know.if I can afford it.

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CONTINUED:

NICOLE

No sweat, get your parents to pay for it.

KRISTEN

They can't. My dad got laid off last year and then the IRS audited him.

NICOLE

Bummer.My roommate's Mexican. I bet she got a scholarship.

They arrive at the front of a fraternity house.

We see various images of people DRINKING and having an most excellent time. Our attention is drawn to the various blondes nearby. They are the ones getting the most juice from the guys. *Different shots of blond girls, some throwing their hair back, each one does something with their HAIR. *36 f.p.s.

THE GIRLS P.O.V.

Where we see a few Blonde women and some partying then we SWING AROUND to reveal the three girls. Nicole throws her hair back, Claudia tries to keep her fingers out of her mouth and we end on Kristen who clutches her own sandy brown short hair feeling intimidated.

ANGLE on CUP OF BEER

As it goes up to a FACE and we TILT UP with it and PULL BACK to REVEAL a Frat guy. This is BILLY, sophomore, business major. We SWING AROUND with Billy as he walks towards the three girls. His interest is apparently geared towards Nicole at first, but he'll take whatever he can get. Billy looks at the girls with a scoring interest.

BILLY

Howya doing? You girls get a drink yet?

The ladies nod in the negative.

BILLY

Well come inside. Let me show you around, introduce ya to some of the bros.

INT. THE THETA KAPPA HOUSE - NIGHT

There is more DRINKING and REVELRY inside. Some SOUL ASYLUM plays in b.g..

We see a DRINKING GAME with a BEER BONG, a siphon with a funnel at the top. A Black girl takes a 'bong' and everybody CHEERS. Beer runs down her wet T-shirt.

(CONTINUED)

CCONTINUED:

WIDER

Where a guy holds out his beer in TRIBUTE. He is the classic Fraternity Row God, a nineties version of Robbie Redford. This is CHAD SHADOWHILL. He turns and we SWING AROUND to reveal ...

CHAD

Whatcha got here Bob? Some new recruits for our little sister rush?

BILLY

No, well, I dunno ..
Uh ladies this is Chad. Chad meet Nicole, Claudia and Kristen. They're freshmen.

CHAD

Freshmen huh?

We see Nicole eyes. They meet Chad's.

They're made for each other. She makes her play.

NICOLE

(flirtatiously)

Yeah but we're not stupid. How do we become little sisters?

KRISTEN

They make you do dumb stuff like drink beer from condoms and wet your T-shirt.

CHAD

Beer from a condom? That's a new one.
Write that down Billy.
No we don't do that, but nobody parties on this campus like we do.

INT. FUDGE'S DORM - NIGHT

Where the Black folk are partying. Everybody is DANCING. They chant "THE ROOF IS ON FIRE".

We notice Malik on the dance floor with a fly ass girl.

TERRACE: A CURTAIN IS PULLED AWAY TO REVEAL

A few people then we see a big AFRO with a comb in it the person turns and we see his face, brown skin intense looking brother. This is FUDGE. Fudge is talking with a girl. There are some other brothas and a couple of honeys. They are passin around a BLUNT. A head comes in the doorway. It is the face of one of Fudge's white roommates. He will be known as EDDIE.

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CONTINUED:

EDDIE

Hey Fudge dude, how long before you
turn everybody out? First day of
classes tomorrow.

FUDGE

(takes a toke of the blunt)
Its over when its over.
...Dude!

All the Black people on the terrace LAUGH.
One guy gives a look like damn that's cold.

EDDIE

Leaves the terrace goes through the party into the next room
where Fudge's two other white roommates are sitting,
twiddling their thumbs trying to figure out how they will
get some sleep for their first day of classes.

One of them moves out of the shadows and we see it is Remy.
He wears SWEATS and no SHIRT.

REMY

I can't take this shit no more!

We follow Remy as he gets up and walks out of the room into the
party. The crowd of mostly Black partygoers part as they see
this white guy with no shirt walk through and out the DOOR.

THE SCREEN SPLITS INTO TWO FRAMES AND WE SEE THE PARTY
CONTINUE and in the other frame we see ...

EXT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT

Where Remy emerges barefooted he throws his hands up and yells ...

REMY

Hey!!! Hey!!!

Remy comes forward as we SWING around him to REVEAL a
UNIVERSITY SECURITY car coming into the parking lot. Remy
goes over and pokes his head in the driver's window.

INT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT - LATER - NIGHT

Where security is standing around while the last of the partygoers
walk out. Eddie stands in the background. Some of Fudge's homies
stand around also. We see a big white man with short hair and a beer
gut. This is OFFICER BRADLEY.

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CONTINUED:

OFFICER BRADLEY

There are people trying to sleep. Show them some courtesy.

(he walks off)

FUDGE

You hear that music playing up the hall?! You ain't saying shit about that cause they playing Nirvana!! Show me some courtesy!

The homies all look at Eddie. Who called security?

EDDIE

I didn't call 'em man! Honest!

Fudge looks over everybody's faces. He turns into the apartment.

BLACK SCREEN

A light is turned on in Remy's room. He turns in his bed.

REMY

Who what?

THE DOORWAY:Where Fudge STANDS.

FUDGE

I just wanted to make sure you were sleep. Cause this is gonna be one of the last nights you sleep good in this apartment.

Fudge turns OUT the LIGHT.

DREADS (O.S.)

You should whip his ass cuzz!!

INT. THE THETA KAPPA HOUSE - NIGHT

Where the party is winding down. Kristen wanders through the upstairs hallway of the frathouse. She passes a door and sees

KRISTEN'S P.O.V.:A ROOM

Where three guys are dragging a drunk girl. To a couch. Maybe its the Black girl we saw earlier. One guy says, "Should we wake her up?" Another says, "No" we see the third one who makes an observation. "She has nice tits.", They all SMILE.

Kristen slowly backs away from the doorway, surprised because no one is aware of what she has seen.

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CONTINUED:

THE STAIRS

Where Kristen comes down. She encounters Claudia talking to some guy.

KRISTEN

Lets go. Where's Nicole?!

CLAUDIA

She's with Chad. Why do you want go so soon?

KRISTEN

So soon? It's

(looks at her watch)

One in the morning. We've got classes tomorrow. What you think we came here for?

CLAUDIA

To find out what we want out of life.

(takes a drink)

And I've got four years to do it. Maybe five. I'm taking my time. Besides nothing much happens on the first day of classes anyway.

KRISTEN

Well I'm leaving.

She leaves.

CLAUDIA

Hey Kristen.

ANOTHER ANGLE

On Claudia on stairs. As we PULL BACK and away from her.

CLAUDIA

Lighten up. Life's not that deep.

PUSH IN CLOSE: KRISTEN

As she turns then walks out.

BACK TO CLAUDIA

CLAUDIA

(to the guy)

That girl needs a good boner.

EXT. THE THETA KAPPA HOUSE - NIGHT

Where Kristen exits. Billy is on the porch. He runs after her.

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CONTINUED:

BILLY

Kristen! Kristen! Slow down.
You're walking like you're on fire. You
could at least have a drink before you go.

KRISTEN

(with attitude)
What do you want?!

BILLY

(surprised)
Nothing. ...I just want to get to know you.

Kristen looks in his eyes. She sees something there she
likes. She smiles. Lowers her guard.

KRISTEN

Okay.
(she thinks)
I don't drink.

BILLY

That's a good. Its a bad habit.
(takes a drink)

KRISTEN

My dad is an alcoholic. Its a family
tradition I want to break.

Billy just nods.

KRISTEN

Well gotta go. My first class is at eight. Bye.
(she walks away)

BILLY

Bye. Have a good first day.

KRISTEN

(turns walks backwards)
I'll see you.

BILLY

Soon I hope.

EXT. 32ND STREET - NIGHT

Kristen walks home. Alone. *We TRAVEL BEHIND her as she walks

TARYN (O.S.)

Why are you walking alone?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Kristen turns and sees a young woman, plain face, rounded glasses, dishwater blond hair. This is TARYN.

TARYN

(1st time we see her face)

This isn't a good neighborhood to walk in by yourself at night.

KRISTEN

I just left my friends on the row. They were drinking and getting crazy so I ditched them.

TARYN

Some friends.

They walk for a moment.

KRISTEN

Oooh look at all the pretty blue lights.

THEIR P.O.V.:Where we look down the middle of campus to see a ROW OF COLBALT BLUE LIGHTS going up the middle of campus and receding off into the night like a BLUE PATH. We PULL BACK to reveal Kristen and Taryn who walk on campus from the street.

TARYN

You don't know what they're for do you?

KRISTEN

No what? Decoration?

TARYN

Thats the blue light system. There are phones at every other one so you can call security if someone tries to grab you.

KRISTEN

Oh. Hmm. Umm I just got here. You met anybody yet here.

TARYN

I just met somebody. Names Taryn. I'm a junior.

KRISTEN

Kristen. Freshman.

TARYN

I could tell.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN

Well my first class is at eight.

TARYN

Oh here! Take this!

(she gives her a flyer)

Students for a Non Sexist Society. We meet on Wednesdays.

KRISTEN

Thanks.

INT. MALIK'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Malik makes RUNNERS LEGS SHADOWS on the wall. He tries to get some sleep. He can't. The thoughts of his first day of college don't allow him escape to dreamland.

He turns over as we PULL UP and AWAY to the door as a guy and girl enter LAUGHING and SMELLING like booze. They make their way to the BED opposite Malik. It sounds as though they are about to do tha nasty.

CLOSE:MALIK'S FACE

He is laying on his side. The sounds of two drunk people fucking is compounding his insomnia. Malik is fed up.

ANOTHER ANGLE: Malik rises and turns on the LIGHT.

MALIK

(joking)

Hurry up man I'm next!

The girl SCREAMS. She RISES, puts on her CLOTHES and RUNS out of the ROOM.

We see the face of Malik's roommate in the LIGHT. He is a white kid, eighteen years of age, suburban face. This is JASON SQUIRE.

JASON

Hey dude, what's the deal?!

MALIK

What's your name?

JASON

Jason.

Jason begins to gurgle and moan. The nights beverages are coming up from his stomach.

(CONTINUE)

CONTINUED:

MALIK

Names Malik. Listen, If we gonna be
roommates we gotta get some rules
straight. You bring a babe in here tell
me first so I don't have to hear you
throw up on each other.

Jason nods and gets up to run to the bathroom.

EXT. COLUMBUS UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

OPTICAL: "COLUMBUS CALL" STUDENT PAPER: SPINNING HEADLINE:

THE FIRST DAY OF CLASSES. COVER PHOTO: We see STUDENTS SITTING ON
THE BOOKSTORE STEPS then the PICTURE MOVES and Kristen walks
into the shot juggling a handful of BOOKS and study materials.
She walks on and we pick up Remy who thinks...

REMY (V.O.)

(looking at his scheldule)
I only have classes on Monday,
Wednesdays, and Thursdays. So what the
hell do I do with the rest of the time?

ANGLE: FUDGE'S P.O.V.:

Where we see a white dude drive his bike up and lock it along with
some other bikes. Over the following images we hear descriptions of
these people. They are remarkably accurate.

FUDGE (V.O.)

Uh, oh heres comes Bill Clinton.

We hear LAUGHS.

The camera pans and our attention is drawn to a tall Blonde
girl long flowing hair and a dark pinkish-tan.

FUDGE (V.O.)

And here's Sunny Sunshine on her way to
the Cancer clinic.

Sunny walks in one direction which leads our attention to
the Black girl we saw earlier at the frat house.

FUDGE (V.O.)

And there's Miss Pseudo booty lookin for
a white man!

More LAUGHS.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EXT. THE CROW'S NEST - DAY

Is a place in the middle of the campus where all the Black folk hang out. We see Fudge in the middle of a whole crowd of young men and women. Students passing the time between classes. Malik sits near Fudge talking to a girl.

MONET

So you Fudge huh? I heard about you.

FUDGE

What'd you hear?

MONET

(impressed)

I heard you were a Super Dooper Senior!
Been here six years and still ain't graduated.

FUDGE

I just can't get all my classes that's all.

We hear a clock bell ring. It will ring eleven times throughout the next couple of images. BONG!!!

MALIK

Well I gotta go to class dog.
Get with you in a bit.

They give each other a GRIP and Malik is off and gone.

WIDE SHOT

Where we see the CROW'S NEST clear of students and Malik walks off to class like everyone else. Only Fudge is left there alone. Just kicking it. He checks his watch. *We hear a CROW fly off in the background.

MONTAGE OF CLASSES:

Over music we see the characters in various classes.

INT. SPANISH CLASSROOM - DAY

Where we START on the SPANISH TEACHER who is speaking fluent SPANISH. PUSH IN on her z-axis.

REACTION SHOT: TRACKING

Past the faces of various students, some are confused and bewildered, others can perfectly understand the teacher. As we PULL BACK on the z-axis we end on Kristen's confused face. She looks around her with a lot of nervousness.

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CONTINUED:

SPANISH TEACHER

Comprendes?

(In English)

The only way you will learn the language
is by speaking.

KRISTEN

Si.

She looks to her right and sees a guy staring at her. We
recognize him as the guy we saw the other day. This is WAYNE.

WAYNE

Hola chica! Quetal? Como estas?

KRISTEN

No comprendo.

WAYNE

I said Hi. How are you? I saw you out on
campus the other day.

KRISTEN

I know. Shh...I'm trying to listen.

SPANISH TEACHER

(walks up to them)

No habla ingles en la clase. If you want
to talk love talk habla en Espanol
solamente. Es better no?

Kristen feels embarrassed. She sinks in her seat.

INT. CHEMICAL ENGINEERING - DAY

Where we are in a LARGE LAB CLASS full of mostly Asian
students and foreign students. As the instructor spouts off
dialogue too sophisticated for this writer, our attention is
drawn on Remy, who listens diligently.

INT. POLITICAL SCIENCE - DAY

A large auditorium classroom. The whole room is full.
And surprisingly QUIET.

THE SEATS:Where we see Malik in his chair. Watching.

A HAND WHICH OPENS TO REVEAL A SMALL ERASER

We see the BACK of a man who sits on a desk in front of this
audience.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He is A DARK BLACK MAN in his mid fifties with round glasses which conceal his dark piercing eyes. This is DR. THOMAS OVERTON, Political Science professor.

DR. OVERTON

Rises holding the ERASER out for all to see and then places it in his POCKET.

THE FRONT ROW

Where a young female student watches closely. Several students pay close attention also.

BACK TO DR.OVERTON:ANOTHER ANGLE:PUSH IN FROM BEHIND

As he walks towards the female student. He looks her in the eye then tries to pull something out of her right ear. Nothing. Then he tries the left one. Same result. Then he goes towards her nose andVolia! There is the eraser!

WIDER:As the class APPLAUDS. Dr.Overton SILENCES them with a WAVE of his HAND.

DR.OVERTON

Don't get too happy! That's about all the magic you'll see for the semester! Now! First off I'd like to welcome all of you people to the real world or as it states in your schedule of classes, POLITICAL SCIENCE 101. I am your instructor Dr. Thomas Overton.

HIGH AND WIDE:Where we see the whole classroom and Dr. Overton at the bottom middle. There are at least one hundred people in this class.

CLOSE ON:MALIK:He writes in his notebook.

MALIK'S MOTHER (V.O.)

Always listen in class baby.

PUSH IN:INSERT:Hand writes "Dr. Thomas Overton"

ANGLE:KRISTEN:Writing in her notebook.

CLOSER:DR. OVERTON

DR. OVERTON

(calmly)

Today I am going to give you people your first lesson in Political Theory.
Ready?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Some people in the class nod. Others are solid.

DR. OVERTON

Now! Okay! I need a volunteer. Anybody?

THE CLASS: No one offers.

KRISTEN: Looks up from writing in her notebook.

DR. OVERTON

(sees no hands)

What no one in this class has initiative?! No wonder this nation is falling behind in the world.

ANGLE

On Malik who looks around then reluctantly RAISES his HAND.

DR. OVERTON

You! Come here. A brave one in the bunch.

Malik reluctantly comes down towards Dr. Overton. .

DR. OVERTON

What's your name sir?

MALIK

(in a good mood)

Malik Williams, Dr. Overton sir.

Malik nods.

DR. OVERTON

Okay Mr. Williams. Will you do me a favor? Take this list of names and read off all those with stars by them.

(to the class)

As your name is called please stand!

MALIK

(reading from list)

Alright who we got here? Marvin Anthony, Wendy Arrington, Tanya Arroyo, Chris Barlow, Jennifer Bryant, Pamela Burris, Skye Blue, Eric Cannon, Kristen Connor...

ANGLE: On the crowd we see Kristen. She looks around.

MALIK

Judith Danzig, Patsy Ewing, Mark Katz

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Malik goes on and on until he reaches own name.

MALIK

Malik Williams?! What?! What's this list for?!

DR. OVERTON

(takes the list)

Thank you. You've served your purpose. All those people who have been called so far please stand.

THE AUDITORIUM :Where we see students STANDING or RISING to stand.

KRISTEN:Rises. Reluctantly.

REMY:People rise around him.

BACK TO DR. OVERTON

DR. OVERTON

All those people whose names have been called and who are now standing, the university has instructed me to inform you that your financial bill has not been paid. You may now leave to settle your debts. You cannot attend this class until you do so. There are no handouts in life, and none in my course!

MURMURS and NOISES go throughout the classroom.

ANGLE ON:REMY. He SMILES.

Kristen rushes up front.*We PULL BACK with her and SWING AROUND to reveal Dr. Overton.

KRISTEN

(in a panic)

But Dr. Overton I need this class! For my major.
(whip pan to)

DR. OVERTON

(brushing her off)

Go to the financial aid office.

MALIK

What about me?

DR. OVERTON

What about you? Don't you have some business to take care of?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK

Yeah but I had initiative. That don't count for nothin? ...Brother.

DR. OVERTON

...I don't like brown nosers either.
Go to the financial aid office kid.
Don't you have an athletic scholarship?
Talk to your coach.

MALIK

...No I don't have no scholarship and
I'm not no dumb athlete!

Dr. Overton ignores Malik.

ANGLE:THE STAIRS

Malik goes UP the stairs and we PULL BACK with him as he walks towards us. In the background we see Dr. Overton starting his introduction to the course. Malik passes Jason and tells him "Take good notes. And let me borrow them."

INT. FINANCIAL AID OFFICE - DAY

There are CROWDS OF PEOPLE in line trying to settle their debts to the university.

ANGLE:Where we are over the shoulder of a FINANCIAL AID COUNSELOR, a heavyset Black woman. Malik is in her booth. We see his face. He is pissed off.

COUNSELOR#1

Your MWAT loan failed to come through.
As well as your Perkins, and your GSL.

MALIK

Why?!

The counselor nods in the negative.

COUNSELOR#1

Bad credit. Talk to your parents.

MALIK

Fuck this school!
I'm tired of this shit! I been waitin
in line all day!

WIDE SHOT

Where we are now outside the booth. We can see Malik throwing a tantrum. Behind him is a long queue (line) of people.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BACK TO BOOTH:INSIDE

COUNSELOR#1

I can't help you if you act like that!

MALIK

Fuck this shit!

He walks away. Someone takes his place at the booth.

We TRACK to the LEFT past another counselor and student to see Kristen at a window. Her face does not look good. The counselor is another big woman.

CLOSE:COUNSELOR

COUNSELOR#2

Baby! You just gonna have to get a job!

CLOSE:KRISTEN:She sighs.

EXT. THE TRACK FIELD - LATE AFTERNOON

We start on a WIDE SHOT of a runner running Left in the distance as we TRACK to the right then as he leaves the frame Malik walks into it. We walk with Malik as he approaches Kenji Mifume.

ANGLE:On Kenji. We move towards him as he is talks with another runner. He looks up to see.

ANOTHER ANGLE;Malik walking towards Kenji. We PULL BACK with Malik over Kenji favoring Malik.

KENJI

You back huh?

MALIK

Yeah I got a problem.

KENJI

Tuition?

Mal nods.

KENJI

Come on.

They walk away.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EXT. THE TRACK FIELD - DUSK

We TRAVEL with the two men as they walk and talk.

KENJI

So I guess you want a scholarship huh?
You really ready want to run? I don't
want you on the team if you're gonna end
up slacking off. You're gonna have to
prove yourself.

MALIK

Listen Coach Kenji, I'll just look at
this like a job. Don't worry I'll
come on time. Just hook up this
tuition thing up.

KENJI

I'll see what I can do. Maybe they'll
put you on partial award.

They SHAKE hands.

INT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

CLOSE ON: PAPER

As a LARGE MATHEMATICAL FORMULA is being written.

ANGLE; On Remy intensely into his Calculus.

WIDER: MASTER SHOT

As we see he is studying in the living room area. We hear the
noise of some people coming up the hall to the apartment. We start
on some FEET as they enter real loud then as they walk into the
room we TILT UP to a STEREO being turned on. LOUD HIP HOP MUSIC
comes from the SPEAKERS then we go from the speakers to....

REMY: Who looks up slowly at the SPEAKERS then over towards...

...Fudge who sits up on the couch. He puts his feet on the
coffee table. In an act of subtle defiance. The SOUND of his
feet on the table masks the cut to ...

DREADS

Has the refrigerator open and is calmly looking through.
Like an aristocrat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

THE CORNER

As Eddie, Fudge's other roommate comes around the corner. He is too afraid to ask Fudge to turn the music down. Instead he turns on a heel goes back into his room.

DREADS

(searching in refrigerator)

Hey y'all don't have no Kool-Aid?

ANOTHER ANGLE:REMY

Who turns around looks at Dreads in the kitchen and then at Fudge.

DREADS

I guess not!

(looks inside frig)

Y'all got some Evian though huh?

REMY

(camera on him)

Now! How would you feel if you had this hard ass class to study for and I came in and played my music loud?

Whip pan to Fudge

FUDGE

(sitting up on the couch,
arms royally spread)

That wouldn't happen.

Back to Remy

REMY

Why not?

FUDGE

(cut to new shot)

Cause I'd whip your ass.

CLOSE:REMY

CLOSE:FUDGE:Serious.

CLOSE: DREADS:Who SMILES and DRINKS from a bottle of Evian.

BACK TO WIDE

Where Remy looks at the two of them, packs his books and walks out of the room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANOTHER ANGLE:Fudge who Remy walks past. We PUSH into him as he SMILES.

EXT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT - THE NEXT DAY

We see Remy along with Fudge's other roommates.

They are carrying their belongings out of the apartment complex. Fudge walks out behind them backpack on shoulder on his way to class. *Try one shot with Fudge in this scene and another without.

INT. JOB PLACEMENT CENTER - DAY

MONTAGE OF CARDS

We see various 3x5 cards onto which are jobs being advertised. One then two, then three and on four we cut to a wider view and pull back to reveal Kristen looking at a bulletin board.

EXT. TRACK FIELD - DAY

Where we see Malik on the grass stretching his legs.

The CAMERA SKIMS across the grass as we PUSH IN to him. Quickly! Over these images we hear Malik talking to his mother.

MALIK (V.O)

So they got me running here now momma.

MALIK'S MOTHER (V.O.)

Running?! I thought you didn't wanna run baby? I thought you were just gonna go to school and study?

STRETCH MONTAGE

Malik does a HURDLE STRETCH. He lays back with one leg to the side. *Shoot OVERHEAD.

MALIK (V.O.)

I don't momma! But they took part of my money away! The loan didn't go through. They say if I run I get partial scholarship.

Malik stretches with his legs wide apart like a V. He leans on each leg and then comes down in the middle.

Malik puts his leg up on a STEEPLECHASE HURDLE.

And leans down. We CUT TO WIDER SHOT where we see a WHOLE ROW of Beautiful Black men and women RUNNERS. All stretching.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EXT. THE TRACK - DAY

THE TRACK

As Malik stands massaging his legs. Getting ready for his workout. He does a couple quick KNEELIFTS. *We start this off behind his back as he rubs his legs then we PUSH IN and swing around to the front of him as he starts to run.

MALIK'S MOTHER (V.O.)

Oh well you better run then baby.

INT. BUSINESS OFFICE - DAY

Where Kristen is on a job interview. There are other YOUNG WOMEN in waiting to be interviewed. We notice several of them have RESUMES in their laps. One carries hers in a manila folder and loudly talks to another girl about how hard she worked to type it right. Kristen suddenly becomes aware that she has no RESUME. She looks down at her EMPTY HANDS as we TILT back up to her face.

DOROTHY (V.O.)

So have you been looking?

KRISTEN (V.O.)

I'm looking mother, I'm looking!
Its just so hard.

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

Where Kristen exits. She walks out looking confused. We reveal that she is in an outside mall area. Kristen passes a GYM and she looks through the glass to see several women toiling on STAIRMASTERS and BIKES and TREADMILLS. Kristen THINKS.

DOROTHY (V.O.)

Well try the food services
department. They always have jobs
because no one wants to take them.

INT. BEAUTY SALON - DAY

LOOKING THROUGH THE GLASS we see Kristen looking into the gym across the way. She turns around then walks towards camera as we PULL BACK to reveal a woman in the foreground with a cool short blond haircut. Kristen walks into the salon.

KRISTEN (V.O.)

I don't want to work food mom.
It stinks. It makes me sick! You
know I did that in high school.
It would be a step backwards.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Where Remy STUDIES. We hear him TALKING to his father on the phone.

REMY'S DAD (V.O.)
So you been studying kid?

REMY (V.O.)
Yeah dad.

INT. CAFE 84 - DAY

We TRAVEL past GROUPS of people EATING, TALKING and LAUGHING. We see Remy come to a table and eat by himself. We notice he is ALONE.

REMY'S DAD (V.O.)
How's the food there? You eating right?

REMY (V.O.)
Its good. Lotta different places to eat.

REMY DAD (V.O.)
Should be. Cost so damn much.

INT. MALIK'S DORM ROOM - DAY

We see Remy in his new room. We see his new roommate DAVID ISSACS. Remy puts up his KISS POSTER and is making his space his own.

REMY (V.O.)
I hadda change roommates.

REMY'S DAD (V.O.)
Why?

REMY (V.O.)
They put me in with this Black guy
couldn't get along. He was too noisy.

REMY'S DAD (V.O.)
He steal anything from ya. You know they
like to steal ...I knew some in
Vietnam...

REMY (V.O.)
No dad. Its cool where I am now. This
guys quiet and I can study now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

MOVING FORWARD:SUBJECTIVE P.O.V.

Someone is RUNNING. We SWING AROUND to see it is Malik.

WIDE SHOT

Where we see Malik RUNNING ACROSS CAMPUS. We also see other runners along the same route. A quiet moment.

CLOSER

MOVING:Quickly! As Malik kicks into his stride. We should be along side him moving with him as he runs.

ZOOM!! We see a female runner come up behind and pass Malik.

She has long brown tall legs and a body like a African goddess. This is DEJA.

REACTION SHOT: Malik's face. He sees something he likes.

DEJA

Feels Malik's eyes on her. She turns to look over her shoulder and then she looks forward and continues her workout.

THE TURN:Where Deja continues running around the turn and ...

We PAN over to see Malik as he continues RUNNING.

He is joined by CORY, who we saw earlier and ADAM another sprinter.

MALIK

(running)

Whatsup?

CORY

Whatsup man.

MALIK

Nuthin. Just a Black man runnin.

ADAM

Black man always got run, fight too.

MALIK

...Who's tha goddess?

MALIK'S P.O.V.:We see Deja as she goes further up the path. She does look like a graceful goddess.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CORY (V.O.)
Her names Deja.

MALIK (V.O.)
Humph shes fine.

NEW ANGLE:MOVING

MALIK
She like white boys?

CORY
I don't think so.
I don't think no white boy could handle that man.

They all LAUGH.

OUTSIDE the Political Science building we see Dr. Overton exit and walk down the steps. In the background, we see Malik coming up.

BACK TO MALIK:RUNNING. He notices Dr.Overton leaving the building.

They look at each other and Malik runs onward.

INT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT HALLWAY - DAY

A female student walks down the hallway. She makes a wide arc as she passes a door. We hear much NOISE inside as we TRACK past the wall and enter ...

INT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Which has totally changed. Hip hop music, Dominique Simone on T.V., LOUD NOISE EVERYWHERE. There are people lying on the floor studying, some guys are playing Monopoly, Another kid is drunk laying against the wall. Fudge is playing Monopoly. Malik (wearing glasses) sits in corner reading the "Destruction of Black Civilization" the noise is lowered and we hear his thoughts as he reads...

MALIK (V.O.)
...forty years of unremitting warfare that Queen Nzinga waged against the Portuguese to free Angola ended with her passing. Africa had lost her greatest daughter, the slaves their emancipator. Where is this explicitly written? Nowhere. ...Damn she was a bad sista!

FUDGE
(looking at the board)
All you need to know to rule shit in this country is right here! Right here, on this board.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DREADS

It's about owning shit. Real estate.
Like I own this hotel. Right here!

MONET

Can I use your computer now?

FUDGE

Its in there. ...You know white
people teach their kids how to play
Monopoly. Black folk let they kids
sit up in front of the T.V. playing
Genesis alla time.

(looks at Malik)

Hey Malik! So they got you running for this
school, huh?

MALIK

Yeah.

FUDGE

And if you don't run you don't get no
tutiton huh?

MALIK

Thats right.

FUDGE

(smiles)

Run nigga run.

Malik gets up and walks out.

MALIK

See y'all in a bit.

INT. UNIVERSITY BAR - NIGHT

Thursday night. Wildest night of the week.

There are many people getting BLASTED offa liquor and going
crazy. Groups of guys and girls congregate and interact
within all of this mayhem.

THROUGH THE CROWD

We see Kristen standing with Claudia. Kristen's hair is a
NEWLY DYED BLONDE. Our attention is drawn to her HAIR by the
way she offhandedly TOUCHES it once too often.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CLAUDIA

You need to loosen up some.
Stop being so uptight.

KRISTEN

I just have a lot on my mind.

Nicole is at the BAR getting cozy with some guy.
She sees her two buddies and decides to join them.

NICOLE

Hey babes! Like your hair Kristen.
(she touches her own real hair)

KRISTEN

Thanks. I wanted a change of pace.

Kristen touches her hair almost in response to Nicole touching hers. It should look like bit of subtle animal communication between them.

NICOLE

You find a job yet?

Nicole looks at Claudia. Eyes meet.

We know where Nicole got her info from.

KRISTEN

No. I'm still looking.
I got a deferment. Which should last me awhile ...

CLAUDIA

(changing the subject)
There's so many guys out.

KRISTEN

Thursday night blitz. Nobody goes to class tomorrow morning.

NICOLE

I wanna get fucked tonight.

THE GIRLS P.O.V.:Where we see Chad and Billy waving them over.

KRISTEN

There you go right there.

NICOLE

No. His cocks too little.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN
How do you know?

NICOLE
Believe me. I know.
(she drinks her drink
seductively)

INT. MALIK'S DORM - NIGHT

Where we see Malik, Jason and David hanging out playing pool. Malik whirls around the table like a POOL SHARK.

MALIK
I'ma take all your quarters. Y'all need
to come out with somea them dollars!

Remy comes walking into the dorm pool room. He has on a thick jacket, a cheap T-shirt, and some boots. Remy sees the three guys together he walks onward. Back to the guys. They all look at each other.

DAVID
He's crazy man. They put me in
with a Psychodickhead.

JASON
I think he's just a quiet guy.

MALIK
It ain't really what a person say
its what they think. He could be a
quiet Psychodickhead.

Malik makes a shot. POW!!

INT. UNIVERSITY BAR - NIGHT

Where the girls and the guys play a drinking game. Kristen takes a DRINK amidst the CONSTANT GOADING of Nicole and Claudia. Billy and Chad exchange a glance. Everyone CLAPS and Kristen gestures for a refill. *Slow DOLLY-ZOOM/Z-AXIS as Kristen gets DRUNKER. The hanging DRINKING GLASSES change in prospective.

TIME WIPE:

EXT. FRATERNITY ROW - NIGHT

Where we see Kristen and Billy walking along. Kristen has her arms around Billy. They are both drunk offa their gourds.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN
(giggling)
Look at my feet! Where are we going?

BILLY
To the house.

INT. UNIVERSITY BAR - NIGHT

THE FRONT: Where there are many students hanging out. We
DESCEND on a CRANE to see Claudia and Nicole exit the bar.

CLAUDIA
You think we should have let her go
with Billy by herself? You know she
doesn't drink.

NICOLE
She's a big girl. She can handle herself.

CHAD
You coming by the house?

NICOLE
Yeah in a bit.

INT. FRATERNITY HOUSE HALLWAY - NIGHT

Where we see Billy escort/drag an inebriated Kristen up the
hall and then into a doorway to a room. He quickly closes
the door behind them. BOOM!!

INT. BILLY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Kristen FALLS back on a TWIN BED. Billy makes his way over
to her and they begin to KISS. Kristen is DRUNK but sober
enough to understand what is about to happen. This doesn't
keep her from wanting to do it.

KRISTEN
You have any condoms?

BILLY
In a moment.

Billy immediately goes for her pants and when he has them
halfway off he goes for his own.

ANOTHER ANGLE

As we see Billy the clumsy lover attempt to KISS Kristen, take
off her bra and stick his dick in at the same time. He
miraculously succeeds in doing the latter. Much against Kristen's
wishes. After a few GRUNTS and THRUSTS she begins to protest.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN

...We should use a condom.
...We should use a condom!
....Stop! No!!

ON THE WORD "NO" WE GO INTO JUMP CUTS! Kristen attempts to PUSH Billy off but he doesn't want to STOP and PUSHES her back down and continues to go up in her. Violently!! We are now well within the boundaries of a RAPE. After some trial Kristen gets away from him. She begins SCREAMING and looking for her clothes. She can hardly get her bearings because she is so DRUNK.

INT. FRATERNITY DEN - NIGHT

Where we see some drunk fraternity guys finishing off the last couple ounces of brew from a keg. They hear a SCREAM and look up.

INT. FRATERNITY HOUSE HALLWAY - NIGHT

HANDHELD

Kristen comes RUNNING out of Billy's room. We FOLLOW her DOWN the STAIRS and then she leaves frame just as Billy catches up. He has his pants HALFWAY DOWN. We hear APPLAUSE as Billy notices his pants and looks over as the CAMERA PANS over to the FRATERNITY BROTHERS CLAPPING. Remy is among the partygoers.

EXT. FRATERNITY ROW - NIGHT

Where we see Kristen running and visibly upset.

BACK TO HOUSE

REMY

(drunk)

Hey Billy how was it? Didja give it to her? Huh? Huh?

BILLY

Shut up and give me a beer.

Billy crosses to the couch moves some cans out the way and sits down uncomfortable with his surroundings. Remy passes him freshly poured beer from the KEG. Billy takes a SWIG then gets up and walks upstairs.

INT. KRISTEN'S DORM - NIGHT

KRISTEN

Is CRYING on her bed. We PULL UP and away from her as Monet walks through the door.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MONET

Hey I finished my paper! I don't have
nothing to do till...What's wrong? Why you
crying? Whew what you been drinkin?

KRISTEN

I...I ...I ...I . Oh God!

THE PHONE RINGS WITH SCREECH:*PHONE IN F.G. THE TWO GIRLS IN B.G.
SPLIT DIOPTER

Monet answers the PHONE.

MONET

Hello.Who's this? Billy?!
(looks at Kristen)
Billy who? I don't know no Billy! Oh you
want to talk to Kristen?!

KRISTEN

Shakes her head and indicates that she doesn't want to talk to
Billy.

MONET

Oh well, she's not here. ...And
even if she was here I don't
think she'd want to talk to you.

SPLIT SCREEN MONET WITH KRISTEN IN B.G. AND BILLY WITH PARTY IN B.G.

INT. BILLY'S ROOM - NIGHT

BILLY ON THE PHONE

BILLY

(frustrated)
I know she's there! Put her on the phone!
(Billy's P.O.V.:the soiled
bed. He looks more worried)

MONET

(push in)
I told you she's not here!

BILLY

Put her on the phone you Black bitch!

The frame with Monet's face FREEZES for a moment as we see the SHOCK
that covers it then back to normal speed.

CLOSE:MONET TURNS AROUND:WE PULL BACK

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MONET
(calmly)
What did you say?

BILLY (O.S.)
You heard me! Put her on the phone!

Monet HANGS up.

LEFT WIPE TO:

INT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

We hear the soft TICKING of a CLOCK.

THE CLOCK: On the wall reads 2:30am.

LOW ANGLE: MONET: Stands with her arms folded. She is pissed to the T.

WIDER

Where we see the room is full of BRUTHAS. Kristen STANDS nearby. She is still is upset. The room is silent save the sound of the clock and of the breathing of gathered folk. The DRUNK STUDENT in the corner wakes up.

DRUNK STUDENT
Why y'all so quiet?

Fudge gets up. Puts on his LONG THICK COAT and a HAT.

FUDGE
Lets go.

DOORWAY: Malik comes back. "Hey where y'all going?" "To kick some ass", says Dreads.

INT. FRATERNITY HOUSE - NIGHT

Where the party is still dying down. We hear the strains of Jimi Hendrix "Manic Depression". We see Remy talking to somebody who is halfway listening.

REMY
(drunk)
I think America is just like Babylon man. Those people lived in excess and their society crumbled. Look at all these faggots going into the military! Ain't no faggots gonna fight if them Arabs start terrorizing this country!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

We PAN OVER to the window where we see the whole POSSE (Fudge leading) coming off the sidewalk towards the house. Some of the brothers are excited and vocal about getting ready to whip some ass.

BLACKMAN'S P.O.V.

Where we see some of the Theta Bros in a drunken stupor they almost instantly become sober when they see this whole group of Black men enter their house.

REVERSE ANGLE

As we see Fudge in the lead, Malik and Monet at his side and Kristen nearby. They walk forward. Monet whispers "Which one?" to Kristen who then points towards.

THE COUCH

Where Billy lays half drunk. He turns around just as he is GRABBED by the COLLAR.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Fudge DRAGS Billy across the floor as some of the other Black men grab his legs. The rest of fraternity brothers are shouting "What's going on?!" , "Let him go!". None of them want a confrontation with these brothas. We TILT UP to Remy as Billy is dragged past him. Chad comes rushing into frame.

CHAD

Call university security!!
Call university security!!

EXT. FRATERNITY HOUSE - NIGHT

Where Fudge drags Billy onto the lawn then stands over him.

He is surrounded by Black men.

BILLY

What I do? What I do?!

FUDGE

(calmly)

I heard you been disrespecting Black women.

MONET

You called me a Black bitch!

FUDGE

Apologize to her.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DREADS

We need to lynch his ass.
Reginald Denny style!

BILLY

Fuckin A, I'm sorry!
(looks to Kristen)
I'm sorry!

Kristen looks at him with ANGER.

THE STREET

Where FIVE UNIVERSITY POLICE CARS pull to the curb their lights
FLASHING, sirens BLARING.

THE STEPS

The FLASHING LIGHTS fall on Remy's face and we see Chad come down
the steps. Nicole stands on the porch also.

CHAD

Officers, Officers! These gang members
walked into our house and pulled our
frat brother out for no reason at all.

DREADS

Who you calling a gang member white boy?
We go to school here too!

Officer Bradley walks up checks out the situation.

OFFICER BRADLEY

All right, all right break it up.
(to the Black students)
Let me see your ID's

FUDGE

You don't need to see nobody's ID!

BILLY

(gets up)
Its all right Officer. Just a little
misunderstanding. Everything's cool now, right?

The crowd of Black men begin to disperse. Fudge coolly walks as he
does he notices Remy on the porch.

Remy makes EYE CONTACT with Fudge. Fudge SMIRKS and walks on.

KRISTEN: Stands silent, watching Billy who then walks towards
the house where we see Nicole on the porch.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

THE PORCH:Nicole makes EYE CONTACT with her. Her eyes almost say "What are you doing with all of those Black people?" then Chad comes over and puts his arms around Nicole and leads her into the house.

NICOLE

(innocent)

I don't understand why they always have to start all this trouble? Are you alright Billy?

BACK TO KRISTEN: WE PULL BACK FROM HER FACE.

The lines have been firmly drawn for her. Monet puts an arm around her and leads her away.

We hear the SOUND of RUNNING WATER.

INT. GIRLS DORM BATHROOM - NIGHT

We hear the SHOWER running. The camera creeps past a few shower stalls to reveal Kristen on the shower floor CRYING. She picks up a piece of soap and begins rubbing her arm.

INT. KRISTEN'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT .

We START on Monet asleep in her bed as we RISE up and TRAVEL across the room to REVEAL Kristen sitting up in her bed WIDE AWAKE. She cannot sleep. Kristen gets up looks in her BACKPACK. She finds the flyer from the STUDENT ALLIANCE FOR A NON SEXIST SOCIETY

TARYN (V.O.)

There is no use in complaining about university security.

INT. CLASSROOM:SNSS MEETING - NIGHT

We see Taryn talking. PUSH IN as she gets more INTENSE.

TARYN

The way they conduct themselves will never change! Don't rely on them to protect you! Never rely on a man for your protection! Think about protecting yourself! We'd do better sticking together than thinking about security!

WIDER ANGLE:Where we see that there are about six other women in this small room other than Taryn. Kristen walks into the room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TARYN

Hi.

KRISTEN

Hello.

(she sits, notices few
people there.)

How long before you start?

TARYN

We've already started.

KRISTEN

Oh.

TARYN

The purpose of this group is to provide a forum where you as women can express yourselves openly freely, without prejudice, in the presence of others of your gender. We were just talking about protection on campus. Statistics show that one out of four women has experienced or attempted rape since the age of fourteen. Any thoughts?

This hits Kristen like a TON OF BRICKS. She folds her arms and almost begins to cry.

KRISTEN

Protection? What protection?

...I really don't want to talk yet. I'm not that comfortable with it now. Please.

INT. HALLWAY; AFTER THE MEETING - DAY

Where Taryn walks with Kristen.

TARYN

You didn't say anything at all.
Its like you had all this stuff to contribute but you wouldn't.

KRISTEN

All I know is that ever since I've come to this school I've been shit on high and low! And if I don't find a job soon I'm gonna have to drop outta college, go back to working at Hot Dog on a Stick, spending my nights watching the Home Shopping Club and getting fat from eating cheese toast like my sister.

(CONTINUED)

- CONTINUED:

TARYN

Is that it? A job? I can help you find one.

KRISTEN

You can?

TARYN

Yeah.

KRISTEN

...Thats not it.

TARYN

You want to talk about it

KRISTEN

Maybe another time.

INT. DR. OVERTON'S CLASSROOM - DAY

Several students take NOTES in class.

Dr. Overton is in an intense lecture on political theory. As he speaks he walks back and forth. In his hand he carries a HANDFUL of ERASERS.

DR. OVERTON

And so, you should know that democratic theory did not start with Rousseau's Social Contract. In fact it probably started with the first guy that saw that some other guy owned some land, had a house and he knew that to attain these things he would have to work hard.

THE CLASSROOM:Where within the crowd of students sitting taking notes we center in on one kid who is SLEEP. *Zoom in on his face.

BACK TO FRONT:Where Dr.Overton turns on a dime and continues talking.

DR. OVERTON

But at that time it didn't matter how hard you worked there would always be things out of your reach because of the social order that was firmly in place.

Dr. Overton's hand where he FLICKS out an ERASER.

ANGLE:On the SLEEPING STUDENT who gets hit square in the head with an eraser. POW!! He quickly WAKES UP. A few people attempt to contain their laughter. They do so in fear of getting hit themselves. *Reaction Shots of students. We

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

notice Remy sitting behind the student who got hit. He doesn't find it funny.

BACK TO DR. OVERTON

Who moves around the class, looking at students, talking, etc.

DR. OVERTON

(continues, unfazed)

So the basic premise of democratic theory is that every citizen living within a society should be able to have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. What you people have to realize is that despite having these rights very few people exercise them. And it is this type of apathy that corrodes our country....Your primary assignment for the semester is as followed: To form your own individual political ideology! This will dictated by your sex, background, etc. This course like anything in life will be what you make of it. I'm not a babysitter!

CLOSE:MALIK'S FACE:SIDE PROFILE

Suddenly Dr. Overton is up in Malik's face.

DR. OVERTON

Nobody is going to treat you special just because you're Black!

CLOSE:DR. OVERTON'S FACE:Stone face.

CLOSE:MALIK:His face says, "Keep your distance."

WIDER:Where Dr. Overton eases back.

DR. OVERTON

(he points to Kristen)

Or because you're a woman. Or because you're Asian, or because ...what are you?

(he points to Remy)

EXT. POLITICAL SCIENCE BUILDING - DAY

Malik walks out angry as hell. Jason comes out of the building and catches up to him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK
That Uncle Tom muthafucka!

JASON
Hey man, whats wrong?

MALIK
He's racist!

JASON
Why you say that?

MALIK
You didn't see what he did back there?!

JASON
(innocent)
I don't get it. He's Black, you're
Black. ...How can he be racist?

Malik looks at Jason like I don't expect you to understand.

EXT. 32nd STREET SCHOOL - DAY

We see Kristen walking onto an elementary school campus.
There are several children playing in the school yard.

TARYN (V.O.)
I found you a job!

KRISTEN (V.O.)
Thanks. Where?

TARYN (V.O.)
Well the university has this program
where you can work at the school across
the street and get tuition credit. Its a
good job. You know Spanish right?

KRISTEN (V.O.)
Yeah. Si. Enough to get by.

A CLASSROOM: Where we see Kristen talking to a teacher,
MRS. CURTIS, a Black woman. She introduces herself in Spanish
to the classroom.

KRISTEN
Hola! Hello. My name is Kristen. Me
llamo Kristen. I am a student at
Columbus University. Estudio en la
universidad de Columbus. I am happy to
be working with you. (We see the
students, no one is impressed then)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LATER: Kristen works at a MATH PROBLEM with a few students. Long division. She explains it in Spanish.

KRISTEN (V.O.)

You were right. I just have to work with the children who can barely understand English. It might be easier to teach math to them but it feels strange to talk in two languages at once.

TARYN (V.O.)

I think it would be good for you. It'll help you speak the language better.

THE END OF THE DAY

Kristen walks out of the classroom. She sees Wayne. He SMILES at her but she does not return the gesture. Kristen walks on.

INT. KRISTEN'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

TARYN

At least you get to apply everything you learn in Spanish class to real life. That's what school is all about anyway.

KRISTEN

I guess.

MONET

Hey girl what's with this?

She picks up a trash can and out comes three DOUCHE BOXES.

MONET

How many times a day you gonna douche? I know your stuff don't smell that bad.

KRISTEN

I just wanna be clean.

MONET

Be careful with that.

Taryn sits on Kristen's bed.

TARYN

The vagina is a self cleaning oven. You could get an infection from too much douching. Just let nature do her job.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MONET

Self cleaning oven? Shit, why don't
you put some Easy Off up there?
(laughs)

TARYN

(laughs)
Or some Drano!

KRISTEN

...Thats not funny.

They stop LAUGHING.

INT. 7 ELEVEN - NIGHT

Where Malik walks quickly into frame. Jason at the counter.
They are buying some treats.

JASON

What you got against Majerle?

MALIK

I mean he's just another overrated white
boy just like John Stockton. The Suns
wouldn't be shit without Barkley!

They begin walking out.

JASON

I don't like him. He spits on people.

MALIK

Some people need to be spit on.

Suddenly, a PANHANDLER walks up to the two of them.

PANHANDLER

Say brother, you got any spare change?

MALIK

Naw man! If I did I would have used
it to pay my tuition.

JASON

Just a second.

Jason obliges and TAKES OUT HIS WALLET AND GIVES THE PANHANDLER
FIVE DOLLARS. *His wallet should be BULGING with BILLS. Jason
FUMBLES for the right bill. We see 20's, 10's, 5's.

Malik looks around. His face says "I wonder who's watching this?"

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PANHANDLER

Thank you. And God bless you. Now I
can buy my poor, starving kids a
coupla pieces o chicken.

Malik is fed up. Jason walks over to him.

MALIK

(slaps Jason upside his head)
You dumb white boy!! I should clock you
over the head and take your wallet
myself! Come on man!

JASON

What's wrong? What'd I do?

MALIK

Listen first rule of the street, you
never show somebody you got money
because then they know you got somethin
to take.Your little white guilt is
gonna get you knocked upside your head.

EXT. CAMPUS - NIGHT

Where we see one lone figure sitting on a bench on campus. We
SWING AROUND to reveal Remy READING. A couple walk past him. Remy
looks up and sees a pale friendly face, pointy ears, bald head.
This is SCOTT.

SCOTT

Hey man.

REMY

Hi.

SCOTT

Reading in the dark is bad for your eyes.

REMY

I have good eyes.

SCOTT

Wanna go get some beers?

REMY

(thinks)

Yeah.

They walk together. As they do we go around the corner and
out of the darkness we see a GROUP OF SKINHEADS sitting
under the BLUE LIGHTS on campus. They are talking and just
coolin out. Scott introduces Remy to the group.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The sound of a FLUTE transcends us into the next scene.

EXT. MUSIC DEPARTMENT - DAY

TARYN'S P.O.V.: We see Kristen walking on campus. Her mind in the CLOUDS. 36 f.p.s.

PUSH IN: TARYN who sits on a bench playing her FLUTE and watching Kristen. *In b.g. several other music students pass, instruments in hand.

PUSH IN FROM BEHIND TARYN: We see Kristen walking in the distance.

Kristen looks up. Seeing Taryn she SMILES. Slo-mo*

NORMAL SPEED

KRISTEN
(walking up)
Hey. You hungry?

EXT. UNIVERSITY PARK - DAY

Kristen and Taryn are sitting on the grass. Kristen is CRYING and attempting to finish her SANDWICH.

KRISTEN
(through tears)
Could you pass me one of those mayonnaise packs?

TARYN (V.O.)
(her thought)
I knew it. Even before you told me.

TARYN
You have to report it.

KRISTEN
That's not gonna do anything. All they do is make you feel like shit. They make it look like you asked for it. I didn't ask for this, I just wanted to go to school.

She breaks down CRYING. Taryn puts her arms around her. Protectively.

KRISTEN
(swallowing her food)
You're probably one of the only nice people I've met here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TARYN

I could say the same for you.

INT. DR. OVERTON'S CLASS - DAY

At the end of class. Everybody comes to the head of the class to collect their papers from the Teacher's assistant. Dr.Overton stands at the head of the class watching.

Malik comes up. He looks at the grade on his paper.

MALIK

Wait, wait this ain't cool. How can I get a B on presentation and a C for....

DR. OVERTON

Misspellings. Punctuation mistakes.

MALIK

You probably didn't even read it, the TA graded alla these!!

The TEACHER'S ASSISTANT looks up and cuts Dr.Overton an eye.

The other students simply pick up their papers and move on.

We see Kristen pick up her paper. She gets a C plus. Shit.

DR. OVERTON

Maybe if you could spell as good as you run it'd be better.

Malik looks at Dr.Overton then he turns to walk away.

MALIK

(mutters)

Sellout.

Dr. Overton hearing this lights up.

DR. OVERTON

What did you say?!!

INT. DR. OVERTON'S OFFICE - DAY

Malik turns around to face Dr.Overton once more then we WHIP PAN OVER ON DR. OVERTON:Standing firm. We notice they are in his office.

DR. OVERTON

....So you think I'm an Uncle Tom huh?

(no response from Malik)

...What does that have to do with your

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DR..OVERTON (cont'd)
ability to put a comma in the right
place or a period at the end of a
sentence?!!

MALIK
You're trying to use that reverse
treatment on me cause I'm one of the
only Black faces in the class.
You don't get paid to mess with me.

DR. OVERTON
...Listen kid I don't have anything to
prove to you, I give you a hard time
all semester until you prove you deserve
otherwise. Those are the Rules of the
Game.

MALIK
Its a fucked up game.

DR. OVERTON
Why play then? You need to get out of that
mentality that someone owes you something.
That is what keeps our people down.

MALIK
I don't think like that. I just don't need
you trying to treat me like the enemy.

DR. OVERTON
Who do you think is the enemy? One man?!

MALIK
No. Anybody who gets in the way of the
struggle for my progress! White or Black!

DR. OVERTON
I'm not in your way.

MALIK
Prove it.

DR. OVERTON
I have nothing to prove. Unlike you.

MALIK
I don't have anything prove. Who do I
have something to prove to?!

DR. OVERTON
Yourself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Malik looks at him then turns out the room.

EXT. TRACK FIELD - DAY

THE TRACK MEET:MONTAGE

Looking up into the CLOUDS go by with the aid of TIME LAPSE as we see a figure slowly soar over our heads as we PAN as we see him land in the sand completing a long jump. Cut to other field events. P.O.V. From a SHOT PUT leaving its THROWER.

ON THE FIELD:We see Kenji with his hands on his hips. The nervous tension of this first meet covers his face. Adam passes him as Kenji pats him on the back and the runner walks towards the track and takes his position among several others. *NOTE:All the Track scenes should be shot alternating camera speeds from normal, slow motion, to overcrank. Like the ring scenes in RAGING BULL.

THE BLOCKS:Where Adam looks around then gets down into his stance.

UPFIELD:Malik stands watching and waiting at second leg. He looks across the field at Cory who is running third leg. Cory waves.

Rocket stands in his position among the ANCHORMEN. They are the fastest runners on the field.

BACK TO STARTING POINT:The starting judge walks out. The timers begin checking their pieces.

STARTING JUDGE

Runners take your positions!!!

THE STANDS:Where everyone tenses up. There are a lot of cute girls in the crowd. The shouting calms to a slow murmur.

THE TIMERS:Check their watches.

The judge raises his STARTING PISTOL.

STARTING JUDGE

On your marks!!!

The runners get down.

CLOSE: CORY'S FACE:Tenses.

STARTING JUDGE

Get set!!!

ANGLE:On all the starting runners as their backs rise in a ARCH.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CLOSE:THE GUN

BLAM!!! TILT DOWN to judge ...

STARTING JUDGE

Go!

FAST!!!!

We see all the runners RISE out of the blocks and down field.
56 f.p.s.

BACK TO NORMAL SPEED:Where they run fast.

ANGLE on MALIK as we MOVE towards him QUICKLY. Then TILT DOWN to his
HAND outstretched for the baton. UNDERCRANK to make this faster.

SLOW MOTION

COUNTERMOVE: We move LEFT as Adam comes from the RIGHT to
hand the baton off to Malik. *36 F.P.S .

CORY

(echoes)

Stick!!!

REGULAR SPEED:Malik takes off around the turn. He is running
with a fury in full lead of the other runners.

THE COACH:Gets happy then his expression changes.

THE TRACK:WIDE SHOT:SUPERIMPOSE A STOPWATCH IN SKY

Where we see Malik running fast then suddenly another brother
zooms up next to him passing him by a few yards.*Sample "I
understand that time is running out." -Last Poets.

ANGLE ON:Cory who waits for the baton. The runner who passed Malik
hands off his stick about two seconds after Malik gives it to Cory.
Malik gets his breath and watches Cory on the third leg.

WIDE SHOT:As we see Cory attempt to close up the gap. He is
closing in just as they arrive at....

THE ANCHOR POSITION:Where Rocket awaits. Rocket takes the STICK and
tries to close the gap even further. He moves like greased lighting
but to no avail. He still comes in second. Only about a second
behind the other team.

COACH KENJI:Checks in with the timers, accepts it, moves on.

ROCKET:Catches his breath, but we can tell he is pissed.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Where the Columbus track team boards the bus. Malik is walking to the bus when he sees Rocket talking to Adam.

ANGLE: ON ROCKET AND ADAM

ROCKET

(mutters)

Somebody ain't holding their own.

They look in Malik's direction. Malik turns and boards the bus.

INT. BUS - DAY

Malik gets on the bus and there are only two empty seats. One next to Cory who calls Malik to the back of bus.

CORY

Malik! C'mon dog back of the bus! Trip time!!

The other seat is right next to Deja, the tall sexy runner. For Malik there really is no choice to be made. he stops at her seat.

MALIK

You mind?

Deja nods permission. Malik takes his seat. He looks around sees something out the window.

CORY (O.S.)

Aww you can't handle that!

MALIK'S P.O.V.: Where we see Rocket get into his 300 ZX Convertible and kiss his girlfriend who is a BLOND BLUE EYED SUNTANNED BOMBSHELL.

BACK TO MALIK

MALIK

He's weak!

DEJA

He's fast.

MALIK

So! Plenty of brothers can run! Shit, there's plenty of ghetto folk that can run faster than anybody on this bus.

The bus starts up and they move off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

INT. BUS - MOVING - DAY

Where everyone on the bus is doing their own thing.
The brothers in the back of the bus are tripping,
drinking Gatorade and talkin about each others MOMMA.
We PULL BACK from this to reveal ...

MALIK

Is lookin at Deja. Deja doesn't look at him but she can feel his
gaze.

DEJA

(not lookin at him)
You just staring.

MALIK

I'm lookin at your neck.
...You got a nice neck you
know that?.

DEJA

Thanks.

MALIK

You from Texas huh? I heard you was
from there, plus you got one of them
Texas bodies.

Deja looks at Malik.

MALIK

I ran against these brothers from Texas
once. Houston.

DEJA

I'm from Dallas.

MALIK

They had these big old Afros. Big Tito
Jackson fros, you figure that would slow
'em down, wind resistance ya'know. But
they was fast!

Deja LAUGHS. Malik SMILES.

MALIK

...Sorry for staring.

EXT. 32ND STREET SCHOOL - DAY

PLAYGROUND

Where Kristen reads a novel by Margaret Atwood "The Handmaids Tale". She looks up from her reading for a moment to see:

KRISTEN'S P.O.V.: Wayne plays with some of BOYS. He HANGS upside down and some of the children do the same.

WAYNE'S P.O.V.: Kristen sitting. He sees her look up for a moment.

Wayne gestures for the kids to clear back. He TWIRLS on the bar and LANDS on his FEET. The children CLAP!! Wayne bends down to vibe with one of the children. He looks out of the corner of his eye to see if Kristen notices him. Then he STANDS up abruptly. POW!! WAYNE HITS HIS HEAD ON THE BARS.

Kristen looks around to see if anyone else has noticed. She rises and goes to his aid.

THE HALLWAY: MOVING QUICKLY; STEDICAM

Where Kristen walks with Wayne. Wayne holds his head. Kristen wants to help him but doesn't want to touch him. She is nervous.

KRISTEN

Keep that towel on it.

WAYNE

Whats your major?

KRISTEN

I don't have one. Undecided.
Your'e bleeding.

WAYNE

Its not that bad. I'm an education major. Do you know if you take a scientist from the 1800's and place him in a modern laboratory he'd be totally lost? New tools, different rules, etc. But take a teacher from the same period, put him or her in a classroom. And what do you get? Same tools. Pencils, paper, erasers, same information too! What does that say about the American educational system?

KRISTEN

I guess that it hasn't gone far. This way.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WAYNE

(looking around)

Think about all the things we've been taught and the way they were presented to us. The same way our parents, and grandparents were taught.

KRISTEN

Thats probably the reason things never change. Humph ...my dad used say always question the knowledge. Its source and purpose.....Here's the nurses office.

Wayne in Nurse's Doorway. He looks at her hair, eyes, nose, and lips. Then we cut to Kristen looking a bit uncomfortable...

The BELL RINGS.

KRISTEN

I gotta go back to class.

WAYNE

When can we get together off the playground?

KRISTEN

I..I..I'm kinda seeing someone. Take care of your head.

WAYNE

Hmm okay. See you in Spanish class.
Thanks.

INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

Where we see Malik walking through the library. He is looking around for someone. We pull back with him as he SMILES and we swing around to reveal Deja STUDYING at a table. Malik tries to say something and she shushs him.

TIME WIPE:

We start OVERHEAD on a LIBRARIAN'S ASSISTANT pushing a cart of books and come down to reveal Malik and Deja at a STUDY TABLE. Deja is looking over a paper Malik has written.

DEJA

Well I think you got more than a problem of spelling and punctuation.

MALIK

Thats a lot of red ink....How come we always gotta meet in the library?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DEJA

Because its safe. Now listen you have to get this to flow better. You have a lot of good points but have to follow it up with concise explanations. Then you come to a clear conclusion that you've set up in advance.

MALIK

Where you learn that?

DEJA

Private school.

MALIK

Hmm. I always went to public school.

We move away from these two and past some shelves where we see Kristen and Taryn sitting studying together. Quietly. As we move into them we hear the faint sound of music.

ECU:Of Kristen's face as we start on her ear and we can see and EARPHONE and the music is LOUDER. Kristen looks from her studies to ...

CLOSE:TARYN'S BREAST then up to her FACE. 36 f.p.s.

WIDER:As Kristen looks at Taryn and Taryn notices Kristen staring at her. Kristen looks away quickly as she is caught.

TARYN

Something wrong?

KRISTEN

No.

OVERHEAD: They go on studying.

We TRAVEL past a bookshelf into the next scene ...

INT. SCOTT'S ROOM - DAY

Where Remy sits with Scott and the other SKINHEADS.

SCOTT

You are the ultimate man! The white man!! Look! (he holds up a mirror) Look how beautiful you are!! (pulls it away) Think about everything that is wrong with this country now! Who causes trouble? Who causes all the crime? (skinheads as a group, overhead) Niggers! Who takes all the jobs away? (in unison)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT (cont'd)
Mexicans! Who has all the money? (again)
Jews!!

REMY
I...I saw these black guys walk into this
party and pull this white guy out to try to
beat him up for no reason at all.

We see another skinhead. We will call him ERIK.

ERIK
What does that show you?

SCOTT
They are animals Remy. We are men.

INT. FUDGE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Malik types out his paper. He gets up to look at the printer
and Fudge enters.

MALIK
Your printer work dog?

FUDGE
Yeah man. ...Make sure you spell check
it before you print it out. And don't be
looking at any other files.

MALIK
I know how to use a computer dog.
(he sits down)
Here we go.

The printer begins emitting PAGES.

FUDGE
I need to start charging y'all fools
like the university does. 25 cents a
page. Everytime somebody do a paper I
can pay for my laundry. (he leaves room)

Malik looks around Fudge's room. He sees a WHOLE SHELF of
BOOKS. Malik rises towards the shelves.

MALIK
Hey you got the Autobiography of
Frederick Douglass?

FUDGE IN KITCHEN:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FUDGE

Yeah.

He walks back into the room.

FUDGE

Biographies are over there.

Fudge crosses to sit down on his bed and we see a whole other shelf of books.

MALIK

(astonished)

You read all of these?

FUDGE

Most of them.

MALIK

You pay for 'em all?

FUDGE

No. ...Why you reading Douglass?

MALIK

(finds the book)

Need it for a class.

FUDGE

That's the only reason you look for information about the world?

MALIK

(goes back to his paper)

Yeah why else?

Fudge SHAKES his head and gets up.

FUDGE

And I thought you was one of the smart ones. Get on up outta here for this girl come by.

OPTICAL:COLUMBUS CALL:HEADLINE READS:MIDTERM MANIA!!! then we dissolve to other stories on the front page which read:"RACIAL TENSION RISING" and "FEMS TO TAKE BACK NIGHT"

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

We see Kristen and Taryn ROLLERBLADING on campus. Kristen does not have the right balance yet. She is almost about to fall when Taryn holds out her HAND and catches her. *36 or 48 f.p.s.. Then NORMAL SPEED as she SMILES uneasily and they SKATE ON.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

INT. SCOTT'S APARTMENT - DAY

Where we see a RAZOR close on a head. FLOCKS OF BLOND HAIR FLOAT to the floor. BOOTS walk over the hair and imbed it into the carpet. Hands hold loose hair as we TILT UP and PULL BACK to reveal Remy in a chair. The SKINHEADS all cheer in unison. They shake Remy's hand. "Welcome Brother." they say.

INT. DR. OVERTON'S OFFICE - DAY

Malik knocks onto the office door and reluctantly enters.

MALIK

You wanted to talk about my paper?

DR. OVERTON

Your writing is getting better. Seems as if you are getting into the swing of things.

MALIK

...So what am I here for?

DR. OVERTON

I want to talk about you.. You don't really like it here do you?

MALIK

No. ...I don't.

DR. OVERTON

Why? ...Are you angry?

MALIK

Yes.

DR. OVERTON

Why? Did someone spit in your face when you first walked on campus? Was there a cross burned on the front lawn of your dorm?

MALIK

No. And I know what your'e getting at. Just because its not up in front of my face doesn't mean its not going on. Its less physical now and more mental.

DR. OVERTON

Mister Williams. Your'e a runner. Right?
(Malik nods) When you race, do you leave the track when you suspect that someone in the next lane could be faster than you?.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK

No.

DR. OVERTON

What do you do?

MALIK

Run faster.

DR. OVERTON

(smiles, and pats him on the back)

So you are learning something here.

INT. SPANISH CLASSROOM - DAY

Where Kristen takes a test. She finishes writing in her blue book then gets up and turns her test into the instructor. We notice her hair is back to BLACK. *Kristen finishes before everyone else.

SPANISH TEACHER

Gracias Senorita Kristina.

KRISTEN

Adios Profesora Calderon.

She cuts an eye to Wayne who finishes his test also.

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

High noon in the middle of campus. The busiest time of the day. Students are shuffling off to class, the library, or wherever. We see people on foot, on bikes, skates, and skateboards.

Kristen walks through the crowd. A new 'bounce' in her step she passes out flyers to every "woman" she passes by.

She stops to talk with a woman then a voice asks.

WAYNE

Can I have a flyer too?

Kristen turns to face Wayne.

KRISTEN

No comprendo ingles.

*For the rest of the scene they speak in Spanish to each other. There are ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WAYNE
(in Spanish)
Puedo tener un papal?

KRISTEN
(in Spanish)
Its for Students for a Non-Sexist
Society. A woman's group. No men.

WAYNE
(in Spanish)
Thats kind of contradictory. You want
a nonsexist society but you won't let
me have a flyer because I'm a man?
Thats not PC.

KRISTEN
Im not PC. Nothing that is political can
ever be correct. Especially with men
running things. (she hands him a flyer)

WAYNE
Thanks. Your hair looks better Black.

Suddenly, Taryn walks up.

TARYN
(in English)
What'd you give him a flyer for?
Give it back!

WAYNE
Hey! What's the problem?!!

KRISTEN
Wait! What's wrong?

TARYN
Stay away from her! You hear?! We don't
need your kind around!! ...C'mon!!

She grabs Kristen by the hand and leads her away. She looks at Wayne
and he looks at her. We PULL AWAY from Wayne as she walks off.

MONTAGE ON CAMPUS: We see several students in Halloween costumes.

INT. TOPPING STUDENT CENTER - HALLOWEEN - NIGHT

BOO!!! A brother in a Black sheet. An African ghost!
He runs away to reveal...

A big party. We see many Black students partying and having
a good time. Some are in Halloween costumes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Fudge, Dreads and crew are kicking it outside the party

Malik and Deja are on the dance floor. Malik puts his hands on her hips. They look into each other eyes as the music flows. We PULL away from them to ...

EXT. COLUMBUS SQUARE - NIGHT

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT! NO MEANS NO!! DEAD MEN DON'T RAPE!!! read handmade signs. Several hundred women (mostly white) hold CANDLES in support of women on campus who have been victims of sexual assault. Taryn SPEAKS from a MEGAPHONE as they walk past. Kristen looks around in awe of the gathered people. They CHANT loudly "HEY! HEY! HO! HO! THE PATRIARCHY HAS GOT TO GO!!!"

We come down from a LAVENDER BANNER which reads "WOMEN UNITE TAKE BACK THE NIGHT" to a STAGE with a PODIUM. A young woman SPEAKS at the microphone about her personal assault. We PUSH IN on Kristen and Taryn who stand at the side of the stage.

TARYN

See you're not alone. Talk about it.
It'll make you feel better.

We see the other GIRL talk at the podium.

TARYN

It'll make you stronger! And it'll
help others too.

THE TREE LINE:Where a male figure walks into the LIGHT. We see it is Wayne. He is curious about the whole affair.

BACK TO STAGE:Kristen PAUSES and then turns to Taryn.

KRISTEN

I'm gonna do it!

The other girl leaves CRYING and Kristen sees the empty podium.

SLOW MOTION:Kristen looks at Taryn then at the faces of everyone. Then she walks towards the mike. We hear her HEARTBEAT loud as she goes forward.

KRISTEN AT THE MICROPHONE:NORMAL SPEED

KRISTEN

(clears her throat)

I...I'm a freshman. And I uh

(looks at Taryn, then to crowd)

I was raped. At the time I felt like it
was my fault. But I learned something
here tonight. ...That it wasn't.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The crowd CHEERS as we REPLAY KRISTEN'S RAPE.

KRISTEN (V.O.)

I wanted to have sex that night. And
...theres nothing wrong with that. But
when he wouldn't use a condom I said
"No" And he wouldn't listen. That was
his crime, not mine.

BACK TO KRISTEN:MOVING

KRISTEN

No means no!! (cheers) Thats the case in
every single language in the world!!
(more cheers) If men don't understand
that now, its up to us to teach them!!
(more cheers, we see Taryn) Then if they
don't want to learn we declare war
because our safety is at stake!!

Everyone CHEERS and they pat her on the BACK and Kristen
walks away from the podium. a TEAR drops down her eye.

BACK TO WAYNE

WOMAN

What are you doing here?!!

Wayne looks at her like. Why not?

EXT. CAMPUS - NIGHT

Where Malik and Deja walk together.

MALIK

I don't see the point in dressing up
at all! Its just some shit white folks
made up to make some more money.

DEJA

You never liked to go trick or treating?

MALIK

Where I'm from we stopped that a long
time ago. You can't be just walkin up
to somebody house you don't know. Get
shot or somethin ... Treat or Treat!!
BLAM!! BLAM!!

(he sees something)

MALIK'S P.O.V.: Where through the glass front of the dorm
tower we see two big football players (white) beating on a
brother. One is holding the black guys hands behind his back

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

while the other guy is punching him in the face. *We SWING BACK AROUND TO REVEAL MALIK. SUBJECTIVE TO OBJECTIVE

MALIK (O.S.)
What the hell?

INT. FLOUR TOWER - NIGHT

With a STEDICAM we move in quickly up the football player PUNCHING AWAY.

MALIK (O.S.)
Hey!!!

The guy turns his head.

POW!!! Malik SOCKS him in the FACE.

ANOTHER ANGLE:As they go down on the ground Malik is KICKING his ass. The guy gets up, recovers and stands by his other buddy.

DOORWAY

DEJA
Malik!!!

MALIK
Stay there!!!

FOOTBALL PLAYER#1
All right! You and me, and him
and him, one on one!

MALIK
I'm with that! Lets go!

ANOTHER ANGLE:Malik looks over at the other brotha.
Are you down to fight?

The other black guy runs away leaving Malik all alone to face these two big hulks.*Pan from Malik to brotha, he runs, back to Malik. *Also the brother should have a Halloween mask around his neck.

Deja RUNS over to Malik's side.

DEJA
Fuck this, shit I'll fight!!! C'mon !!!!

The two football players look at each other then make a decision.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FOOTBALL PLAYER#2
(they move forward)
Oh well.

Malik backs up then says ...

MALIK
Yeah, c'mon!! I'll go around the
corner and get some of my homies to
come back and smoke both of y'all
cracker asses!

The two white boys look at each other then walk out the building.

Malik looks at them run off. Deja SIGHS and HUGS Malik.

MALIK
(takes a breath)
This mean I'ma get some tonight?

They SMILE.

EXT. DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - NIGHT

MONTAGE OF CUTS: Bald heads, swastikas, rebel flags. We see
and hear a CROWD of SKINHEADS. There are about 500 in mass.
Oi! music blaers from speakers outside the warehouse where a
party is being held.

ANGLE ON: The crowd of skinheads where some people are
SLAMDANCING. They are banging into each other. It looks like
they are fighting.

We CRANE DOWN into the crowd where we see Remy. He looks
around him at all the ACTION.

CLOSE: On Remy as he SMILES. He has finally found his place
in the world. A loser among a sea of losers.

REMY
This is awesome!

ERIK
Cool huh?

He looks over and makes eye contact with a SKINHEAD GIRL.

ERIK
You wanna fuck her?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REMY
(smiles)
Yeah.

SCOTT
Lets go do some crimes.

A crowd of SLAMDANCING SKINS comes into frame and WIPES Remy away and into the MASSES.

EXT. DOWNTOWN - DAY

RAILROAD TRACKS

We see a small TENT CITY. There are several homeless people in a deep slumber. A CHILD holds a plastic JACK O LANTERN.

CLOSE ON: A bottle of LIGHTER FLUID as a pale hand spreads the flammable liquid over the cardboard and near the people.

ANGLE ON: SCOTT who stands with his arms folded (BACKLIT). He looks over at Remy. Scott produces a packet of MATCHES and gives it to Remy. He nods in the direction of the tents.

THE GROUND: Where Remy lights the match. He glances into the tent seeing its sleeping inhabitants. He cannot bring himself to light the fluid.

Erik walks over and snatches the matches out Remy's hand.

ERIK
(whispers)
Gimme those!!!

He LIGHTS the match.

We see the FLAME trickle up the cardboard tents and around the people inside.

The people WAKE UP and PANIC. They attempt to put out the flames.

The skinheads LAUGH and RUN, Remy runs to catch up.

AROUND THE BLOCK - LATER

Erik PUSHES Remy.

ERIK
You pussy!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REMY

Fuck you!!

ERIK

He's weak Scott! He's gotta go! You failed! You failed!

REMY

Some fucking test! Burning people while they're sleep!! You wouldn't last five seconds in a real war!!

SCOTT

You listen!! This is no game!! What we do we do for survival! The well being of the white race! If you want to be a part of the future of this country you must accept us my brother! But you cannot be part of the bond if you won't spill blood!

Some of the other SKINHEADS have found a homeless man and are they begin KICKING him on the ground.

Remy looks at Scott. Then SLOWLY he walks over then RUNS and KICKS the homeless person on the ground.

LOW ANGLE:As Remy kicks. Scott walks over and shouts in his ear.

SCOTT

Strike!! For the safety of your mother!!
Strike for sake of your father!!! Strike for
the love of your pure white blood line!

Remy backs off and we see the homeless man on the ground. His eyes are sullen. We PUSH INTO REMY'S FACE. Then Scott walks over and says, "C'mon brother."

INT. KRISTEN'S DORM - NIGHT

Where Kristen and Taryn come to the door. It should kinda look like they are coming home from a date.

Kristen opens the door.

KRISTEN

(charged up)

That was awesome.

TARYN

It was good. There were some things
we could have done to make it better.
...I was proud of you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They HUG each other.

MONET: Is in bed. She is half awake looking at the two girls in the doorway. The hallway lights falling on her sleepy face.

KRISTEN

(quietly)

... Uh can I stay with you tonight? We could um sit up and talk some more.

They look into each other eyes. More than talking is afoot. Both women are aware of this.

TARYN

...Are you sure you're ready for that?

Kristen doesn't say anything.

TARYN

I want you to be sure. ...Goodnight.

Taryn walks away and Kristen goes inside.

MONET

What's up with your friend? She's weird.

KRISTEN

No she's not. She's just different.

MONET

Yeah that's for sure. I bet she wants to show you just how different she can be huh?

INT. MALIK'S DORM - NIGHT

Malik lays in bed with Deja. Their faces are close together..

DEJA

Lets have a staring contest.
...Whoever laughs first loses.

CLOSE UP: MALIK

CLOSE UP: DEJA

Malik LAUGHS

MALIK

(laughs)

I lost.

They LAUGH.

DISSOLVE TO:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Malik and Deja make LOVE. We hear the soft aerobic sounds of their lovemaking over the following images.

EXT. TRACK - EARLY MORNING - DAY

We see Malik RUNNING. He turns his head and Deja runs into the frame next to him. WIDER we see them run up the TRACK. *We continue to hear the sound of their lovemaking over these images. Slow motion. 48 f.p.s..

NORMAL SPEED:CRANE OVERHEAD and down as they run into the shot.

Malik catches his breath. He sits down on the grass. Deja joins him.

MALIK

Its a shame what they put down on us.
After one hundred years we still
slaves. I mean I study, go to class,
but what is this preparing me for? To
survive in the white man's world? Its
like a Catch 22, if you don't learn
how their world works you're worse
off. If you do learn how it works you
get more miserable knowing this
system wasn't even made for us.

DEJA

So what are you going to do just
throw your hands up in the air and
give up? You shouldn't be concerned
with changing them! Just concentrate
on Malik. Making your head strong.
No one's gonna care about you but you
... and me.

Malik SMILES.

DEJA

Gimme some head.

MALIK

What?

They touch FOREHEADS then KISS and laugh.

We PULL AWAY from them.

MALIK (O.S.)

(laughing)

You want some more head?

I'll give ya some more head!

INT. REMY AND DAVID'S DORM - MORNING - DAY

Where David is SLEEP in his bed. Remy comes in making noise.

DAVID

(half sleep)

Hey I'm trying to sleep!

Remy turns on his music. Oi! music. BLARING!!! He coolly sits down his bed and WAITS.

David gets up DROWSY and half dead. He calmly takes his blanket walks out the door and out to the suite couch. Remy calmly gets up and CLOSES the door behind David.

EXT. 32nd STREET SCHOOL - NIGHT

THE CLASSROOM:Where Kristen is working with some students.

THE DOORWAY:Where Wayne enters. Kristen sees him and excuses herself to talk to him.

WAYNE

I'm sorry about the other day.

KRISTEN

Its alright.

WAYNE

I just um. I really wanted to get to know you. I think your'e nice.

KRISTEN

How do you know that? I could be terrible.
A monster

WAYNE

I don't think your'e a bad person.
I think you have a big heart.

KRISTEN

How do I know your'e not a monster?

WAYNE

Well I don't have fangs and claws.

KRISTEN

Most real monsters don't...

WAYNE

...How is it that I'm guilty by virtue of birth? You look at me and see male, white, trouble. I may look like one of the people who

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WAYNE (cont'd)
run things but I'm not. I'm not rich, I'm not
the smartest guy around. But I'm good person.
...Now. Will you go out with me?

Kristen looks at him.

EXT. CAMPUS - NIGHT

Where Kristen and Taryn walk together. We notice that Taryn
is linked to Kristen by one finger. They are eating ice cream
together. Kristen sees Monet.

KRISTEN
Hey Monet.

MONET
Hey.
(her eyes fall to the girls'
hands together)

Kristen uncomfortably unlinks her finger from Taryn's.

MONET
You alright?

KRISTEN
Yeah.

MONET
See you later.

Monet walks on. She shakes her head.

MONET
If my momma only knew what was going on up here.

EXT. CAMPUS - NIGHT

Kristen and Taryn sit on a bench.

KRISTEN
Taryn I think I'm gonna take a semester
overseas. Somewhere like Spain or
Portugal. I need to expand my world.

TARYN
And leave me? What about me?

KRISTEN
You could come. I'll probably go on
scholarship if I can get one. Its a trip
how life can be. I've never been anywhere
outside of California except Arizona.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TARYN

...I was just joking about me. Don't
define your life in relation to anyone
else cause they'll always let you down.

KRISTEN

I won't let you down.

INT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT BUILDING - STAIRWELL - NIGHT

A DOOR IS OPENED

Fudge enters and goes UP the stairs, notebook and textbook in hand.

UPSTAIRS

Another door is opened and two university security guards
come DOWNSTAIRS.

ANGLE:Fudge coming UPSTAIRS.

ANOTHER ANGLE:Security guards going DOWNSTAIRS.

CROSSCUT Fudge and Guards a few times and then

They meet in the stairwell.

THE SECURITY GUARDS are startled for a moment surprised to see a
Black face. Their response?

SECURITY GUARD#1

Hey! Let us see your ID.

OFFICER BRADLEY

(recognizes Fudge)

Never mind lets go.

They walk past Fudge.

OFFICER BRADLEY

That's the guy that throws all those
parties, he'll probably never graduate.

CLOSE:FUDGE

FUDGE

Corny ass.

EXT. THE DESERT - OUTSIDE PALM SPRINGS - DAY

ANGLE:On a big caricature of a Black man with big
overexaggerated LIPS and BUBBLE EYES. Suddenly, the image is
filled with bullet holes. BLAM!!!! BLAM!!! BLAM!!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A ROW OF SKINHEADS

Are SHOOTING at TARGETS in the DESERT. They stop shooting to reload.

Erik goes out to the TARGETS he looks at his own then we PAN over to Remy's. The total bull's-eye is SHOT out of the nose.

ERIK

Hey look! Martin got lucky!

BACK TO FIRING ROW:Where Scott STANDS by Remy.

REMY

(he reloads)

Lucks got nothing to do with it!

SCOTT

Where'd you learn to shoot like that?

REMY

From my dad. He's a survivalist. He's always talking about the end of the world coming and all.

SCOTT

Erik get out the way!! Shoot again Remy.

Remy AIMS.

SCOTT

No. Not here. There. Where Erik was.

Remy changes positions and takes aim. BLAM!!! BLAM!!!
Every shot hits within bull's-eye range.

Remy SMILES looks over at Erik who is not impressed.
Erik STICKS OUT his TONGUE.

SCOTT

Well we have someone in the ranks with a skill.

SKINHEAD#1

(walks into camera)

Hey Police!

Some of them turn to run. Scott the leader tells them to chill.

SCOTT

Don't run!

WIDE:The road where we see HEAT RISE from the ground and three patrol cars pull to the side. Six uniformed officers get out and walk towards the skins.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The music rises creating tension then HANDSHAKES are exchanged along with GREETINGS. 56 f.p.s. to 36 f.p.s..

REMY:Smiles and goes back to shooting.

LATER:We start on one of the officers cheerfully letting one of the skins play with his baton. The skin makes motions as if he were beating someone on the ground ala Rodney King then we end on Remy who is talking with two other officers.

OFFICER#1

So what are you going to do after college?

INT. KRISTEN'S ROOM - DAY

Kristen is STUDYING. Monet is READING Angela Davis's "Women, Sex, and Politics." Kristen finishes her notes and looks at the TIME and gets up.

KRISTEN

I gotta jam on this English lit test.

She puts on a hat which says, "CHOICE" on it. The "O" has a female sex sign on it.

KRISTEN

Monet.

MONET

What?

KRISTEN

How come you won't come to the meetings with me?

MONET

Cause I don't need to be a feminist.

KRISTEN

Why?

MONET

Cause I'm a Black woman. No one had reach me how to be strong. All I had to do was be born in this country.

KRISTEN

Hmm. Well if you change your mind you can always come.

MONET

(sharply)

How is it with a woman?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN

Why would you ask me?

Monet gives her that look. Like you would know.

KRISTEN

Well I haven't tried it.

...You should ask Taryn.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

Where Kristen sits watching the meeting. Taryn stands before the gathered people.

GIRL

All the TA's in the science department are male. I'm fully qualified and because I'm a woman they won't give me a position. Then when I go to talk my advisor he keeps suggesting I change my major to art or English lit, because it would be quote on quote easier.

Taryn SMILES at Kristen. Kristen holds her head down. Somethings on her mind.

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY - LATE AFTERNOON

Where Kristen walks with Taryn.

TARYN

I thought we could go to the movies tonight. Theres this film showing in Santa Monica that Tina said was pretty good.

KRISTEN

(cutting her off)

Well I had something to take care of.

INT. KRISTEN'S DORM - LATE AFTERNOON

Where she fixes herself up in the mirror. Monet looks at her face and make up. "Too much, you don't want to look like a tramp."

TARYN (V.O.)

What do you have to do?

KRISTEN (V.O.)

I think I should study tonight.

FROM THE WINDOW: ON HIGH WE SEE WAYNE WALKING TOWARDS THE DORM WE PULL BACK TO REVEAL KRISTEN AND MONET

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MONET

I was getting worried about you.

EXT. CAMPUS - LATE AFTERNOON

Where they walk together.

KRISTEN

So where are we going?

WAYNE

Its a surprise.

INT. CAFE 84 - ICE CREAM COUNTER - LATE AFTERNOON - DAY

Malik stands with Deja. They are ordering ice cream. He is wearing a BLACK PANTHERS T-SHIRT.

DEJA

(mock reporter)

We're here with Malik Williams, the angriest Black man on campus. ...Malik? Why are you so angry?

MALIK

(he looks to the side into the camera)

Well basically because I feel like a displaced individual in this country. I was brought here without my own free will and every day I gotta fight for my sanity and salvation. ...But I'm recoveringI've resolved myself to learn all I can so that I can take my destiny into my own hands. And get mine!

DEJA

Thank you Mr.Williams. We wish you well in your quest.

Suddenly, Malik turns around and standing there right at his side is Remy, looking weirder than Travis Bickle.

REMY

(eyes on Malik's shirt)

You support the Black Panthers?

MALIK

(looks him up and down)

Yeah.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REMY
Reverse racism man.
(he walks away)

REVERSE ANGLE: Pulling away from Malik.

MALIK
What the fuck do you know about the Panthers?

ANGLE ON REMY: Who walks fast then runs away.

MALIK walks fast then runs after Remy. Then he stops abruptly.

MALIK
(talking to himself)
What I'm running after this fool for?
Shit I know where he lives.

INT. MALIK'S DORM - DAVID AND REMY'S ROOM - DAY

CLOSE: ON DOOR AS A EBONY FIST KNOCKS ON IT.

DOORWAY: As Remy opens the door and stands in the doorway.

REVERSE ANGLE: Malik slides into view calmly licking his ice cream.

MALIK
(calmly)
You know Remy. I don't know you. I ain't
ever heard you talk much, but I do know you
been hanging out with them skinheads
lately. And it ain't really what you say,
it's what you think. ..So in my mind you
been walking around here calling me a nigga
in your head. Am I right?

He THROWS his ice cream cone in the TRASH CAN.

REMY
I don't have nothing to say to you.
(he goes to close the door)

Malik stops the door with his hand. *Pan from hand to Malik's face.

MALIK
No I think you do! You want to say
what you feel don't you?!...You think
I'm a nigga?! Be a man!! Call me one
to my face!

CLOSE: Remy's eyes as he looks down at Malik's hands.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK'S RIGHT HAND: As he OPENS and CLOSES it back and forth into a FIST.

The tension mounts to a head.

MALIK

Yeah you can't do it! Punk ass white boy!
(he walks away)

Remy stands in the doorway for a moment then he SLAMS the door CLOSE
INSIDE HIS ROOM

Remy stands there. Anger RISES within him. HE BEGINS TO TEAR UP THE WHOLE ROOM!! Pulling out his roommates belongings as well as his own. This goes on for a minute until the room is a MESS. *Handheld.

ANGLE ON REMY:As he sits on the floor. He pauses and looks under his bed. He pulls out a case and opens it to reveal a GLOCK 9mm with bullets. Remy pauses and begins LOADING the clip.

INT. KWCU RADIO STATION - LATE AFTERNOON

We hear Hip hop music playing. Kristen and Wayne walk together We PULL BACK into the DJ BOOTH of the Columbus University radio station.

DJ. SHAFT

Oh well time to go.

Talks into the microphone.

DJ.SHAFT

Alright we're gonna ease into an hour and a half of alternative music with Way Out Wayne. This is DJ. Shaft (Taps keyboard "John Shaft") signing out. Peace and Love. Baby.

(he plays the Shaft theme song)

STUDENT UNION BUILDING:Where we see a SPEAKER the Shaft theme goes down and some alternative music comes on. We hear Wayne's voice as the CAMERA PANS to a beautiful late afternoon shot of the campus. LONG LENS

WAYNE (V.O.)

Hey whats happening? This is Way Out Wayne! I'm here with a friend of mine.

KRISTEN (V.O.)

We were supposed to be on a date. Hey are we on the air?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WAYNE

Yeah we are. Keep talking. And remember
you're talking to the whole campus.

The lense PUSHES in on many students in the distance as we center in
on a blond haired girl. We recognize her as Taryn even this far.

KRISTEN (V.O.)

What do I say?

WAYNE (V.O.)

Tell 'em who you are.

KRISTEN (V.O.)

Well my name is Kristen Conner.

We see Taryn freeze in her tracks. From afar.

BACK TO STATION

KRISTEN

Since everybody is listening I'd like
talk about the Student Alliance for a
Non-Sexist Society.

WAYNE

Yeah lets talk about it. Its a
predominantly womans group right?

KRISTEN

Yeah.

ANGLE ON HIGH: We see a speaker in the foreground and in background
looking down we see Taryn looking UP at the speaker. Split diopter.

WAYNE

So how can we have a Non-Sexist Society if
you don't include men in the discussions?

BACK TO STATION

KRISTEN

Well I think since our society is pretty
much male dominated. And all the rules
are created for the benefit and by men.
There's no harm in women gathering to
set up our own agenda and strategy
towards surviving in this world that
seems to be created for you not me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WAYNE

Okay. And that lets go to our first song and we'll continue our date. I can tell we'll have a lot to talk about.

He puts on a PEARL JAM tune.

KRISTEN

I was just getting started.

WAYNE

You think it be cool if I went to one of the meetings?

KRISTEN

Um well ...I wouldn't mind but...

WAYNE

But there are some people who would mind huh?

KRISTEN

Yeah. ...You could come with me though.

INT. MALIK'S ROOM - NIGHT:LATER

Where Malik sits on his bed reading. Jason sits up with his ear to the wall. He is spying on Remy and David who we can hear arguing. We also hear American Pie on Jason's stereo.

DAVID (V.O.)

I don't care about you tearing up your stuff but you didn't have to touch my side of the room!

REMY (V.O.)

What are you gonna do about it?!

MALIK:Looks up from his reading.

MALIK

Mind your own business and turn that corny music off

JASON

They're arguing. I don't see how he can live with that asshole.

MALIK

I was gonna kick his ass earlier.

Suddenly, we hear a big THUMP on the other side of the wall.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JASON

Oh shit, they're fighting!!

Malik and Jason jump up and run across the way as we TRAVEL past the wall to see Remy pushing little David around. As he does he shouts racial threats.

REMY

(punching David)

Don't you know I'm superior to you?!!! I come from the master race of the world!!!

Malik and Jason rush into the doorway. Malik rushes over and GRABS Remy around his neck in a full Nelson headlock.

Remy CHOKES and GASPS.

MALIK

You calm!! You calm?!!

Remy nods he is coolin off.

JASON

(trying to mediate)

This obviously isn't going to work!
One of you going to have to move out!

Remy crawls across the floor. He reaches under the bed.

ANOTHER ANGLE: Remy pulls his 9MM out on Malik, Jason, and David.

REMY

Fuck you! Fuck all you!! Damn niggers and Jews! You all stick together!! The Jews control the niggers to work against the pure white Christian man!
(puts the gun to Malik's forehead)
That's right, you heard me, fucking nigger! Don't you understand that the Jews control you?! You ain't nothin!!

CLOSE ON: MALIK who looks Remy straight in the eye.

MALIK

That shit supposed to scare me?! Where I'm from if you pull a gun out you better shoot!

(Malik starts towards him)

Remy cocks the gun. CLOSE on a BULLET entering the CHAMBER. Malik backs up.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANGLE: Clothes being thrown into a DUFFEL BAG. We TILT UP to reveal Remy holding the three other guys at gunpoint.

REMY

Don't move!!

MALIK

Man you still a little punk! I better not see your ass around campus!

He finishes PACKING.

REMY

Get outta my way!!

The three guys cool down. The two white guys are scared as HELL. Jason is trying to calm down. David seems to be in SHOCK. Malik stands in QUIET FURY.

DAVID

I can't believe he had a gun!
He had a gun!!

JASON

I'm calling security.

Malik is seething with ANGER. We MOVE into his FACE.

MALIK

I'ma get this fool!

THE HALLWAY: Where we follow on Malik's back. He RUNS down the hall.

REMY: Runs down the hall, BAG in hand. Looking behind him. He gets on the elevator.

MALIK: Arrives at the elevator just as he sees the NUMBERS go down. He runs out of the frame towards ...

THE STAIRS: Where Malik hits the stairs. He runs down. HOPPING down half flights at a time.

OFFICER BRADLEY AND ANOTHER GUARD come up the stairs. They see Malik RUNNING.

OFFICER BRADLEY

Hey stop!! Not so fast.

MALIK

Man get the fuck out my way!!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OFFICER BRADLEY
What are you doing here?

MALIK
I'm a student! Listen I got catch this
dude man!

OFFICER BRADLEY
Let me see your ID!

MALIK
Get the fuck out the way!! You don't
need to see my damn ID!!!

Malik persists PUSHING Officer Bradley out of the way. They try to RESTRAIN him and he ends up FIGHTING the both of them.

THE LOBBY:Where we see the two guards with Malik in a CHOKE HOLD.

THE DOORWAY:Where Deja comes in. She sees Malik being choked and she goes CRAZY!!

THE ELEVATOR:Where Jason and David get off.

JASON
Let him go!! He goes to school here!!

They let Malik go and he PUNCHES the other guard in the JAW!
Officer Bradley pulls out his NIGHTSTICK. Malik stands on guard.

THE WALKWAY:Outside the dorms. Where we see security cars coming in all directions.

JASON
One of our roommates pulled a gun out on
us! He was trying to catch him!!

Malik is consoled by Deja.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FLOUR TOWER - NIGHT

ON A CRANE

We come down from high to see about nine security cars their lights flashing in front of the dorm. Crowds of students watch nearby.

ANGLE ON:Officer Bradley comes out of the building and talks to one of his lieutenants.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OFFICER BRADLEY

We found this in the kid's room.

(he opens up the a red Nazi flag)

He was a pinhead alright. Get a name and picture if you can.

Another officer comes out with a copy of MEIN KAMPF reading it.

ANOTHER ANGLE:SPLIT FOCUS

Flag in the foreground being opened, Malik in the background, Deja at his side. Fudge and crew in effect. There are nothing but brothers and sisters around them. A CROWD OF BLACK FOLKS ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE STRONG.

Officer Bradley looks towards Malik and the crowd of Black people.

OFFICER BRADLEY

Alright break it up! Everythings fine here now!

FUDGE

What you mean break it up?! Look at all those white folks standing over there!

We START on a shot of the crowd of white people standing across the way and PULL BACK to reveal Officer Bradley.

FUDGE

(push in slowly)

You ain't telling them to go nowhere! white boy gonna get up in my buddy's face with a gun, and you gonna ask us to break it up?! Y'all got some nerve! Fuck you!! We ain't going nowhere! If they can stand over there together we standing right here ..together!

OFFICER BRADLEY

(to his lieutenant)

Go tell those kids over there to move so we can clear this whole area.

One of the officers goes over to clear the crowd and as he does we reveal Kristen standing there with Wayne at her side.

KRISTEN

There's so much hate in this world.

WAYNE

Try on this campus.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN

Somebody should do something about it.

The various crowds disperse through dissolves leaving Malik there alone. He gets up and walks back off with Deja and Fudge.

INT. KRISTEN'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Monet sits at her desk writing notes. She gets up and STRETCHES her back.

EXT. KRISTEN'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Where Monet opens the window.

MONET

Taryn!!

The camera TILTS DOWN to reveal Taryn.

MONET

Kristen's not here!! (no response)
You want me to tell her you came
by?!! ...Well.

She CLOSES the window and goes back to her studies.
At another window we see another girl looking out.

EXT. CAMPUS - NIGHT

Where Kristen and Wayne walk together.

WAYNE

It can't be just about women. Just
like it can't be just about men. We
gotta work together. We can't live
without each other. If the world only
had one sex it would end.

KRISTEN

(looking in his eyes)
...I guess you have a point. Then again
love is where you find it...
(she looks forward)
Taryn!!

She runs towards Taryn then stops midway.

KRISTEN

This is Wayne.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TARYN

We met before.

KRISTEN

(nervous)

Yeah thats right I forgot. ...Wayne
invited me to talk on the radio station.

TARYN

I heard you.

KRISTEN'S WINDOW:Where Monet looks out.

MONET

Oooh Drama! Drama!!

BACK TO SCENE

KRISTEN

Umm ...how'd I sound?

TARYN

The same.

KRISTEN

Well goodnight Wayne. It was cool.
Put your hand out.
(she slaps his hand,
front and back)

WAYNE

When can I see you again?

KRISTEN

(looks at Taryn. then down)
Umm I'll call you.

WAYNE

Okay.

Kristen and Taryn are left there standing.

TARYN

...You didn't have to lie. ...Why are
you playing with my feelings? I told
myself I would not try to influence
you in any way! I would let you make
your own choices. If you wanted to be
with me it would happen naturally! If
you didn't you wouldn't! You just
showed me what you wanted!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:..

KRISTEN

But...but I never tried to let you on!
Not that I wasn't curious!

BACK TO WINDOW

MONET

Whew ...this is too much! Too hot for me!

TARYN

I thought we were friends. (she walks off)

OPTICAL:COLUMBUS CALL:We see the paper drop down and the headline reads "NEO-NAZIS ON CAMPUS". Dr. Overton picks up an copy.

DR. OVERTON (V.O.)

So I understand the Gestapo lives on
here at Columbus University!! Neo
nazis on campus!!

INT. DR.OVERTON'S CLASSROOM - DAY

DR. OVERTON

So what do you think people? You
think they should be put in jail?

Hands go up.

MALIK

(looking him in the eye)

No. ...I think somebody should kick they ass!

Murmurs go throughout the class.

DR. OVERTON

I understand your passion so I'll
excuse you for not raising your hand.
...So let me play devil's advocate.

MALIK

Go ahead and play the devil.

DR. OVERTON

Okay, lets say you're a Black kid living
in 1963 in Mississippi. You can't vote,
you can't go to the local restaurant
because they don't serve Blacks, you
can't go to the university because they
don't admit Blacks. You get so mad you
and your friends decide to have a 'sit
in' in the local restaurant. Then the
cops come around beat you up and take
you off to jail for civil disobedience.
Now is that right?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VOICES IN CLASS

No.

(someone else, whisper)

KRISTEN

That's freedom of expression.

DR. OVERTON

That's right, its freedom of expression. It may have been illegal but the rights of those people that sat in that diner to fight segregation should be protected just as those people who would foster neo-Nazism. Thats what makes this America!

MALIK

Wait. Lets get back to Mississippi!! First off, I don't believe those people were protected at all. The law at the time was that they wasn't supposed to bring they Black faces in them diners or they would get beat. They went in there and they got beat! I don't see the point of it!

DR. OVERTON

Young man you cannot diminish the importance of the whole civil rights movement.

MALIK

I'm not doing that. I'm just saying that the system and its laws were not created for Black people! They were created to protect and preserve people like them skinheads not Black folk!!

DR. OVERTON

I don't agree with you.

MALIK

I don't wanna hear this!
(he gets up)

DR. OVERTON

Thats the problem with you people!

Dr. Overton watches him walk up the stairs.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK

(turns)

Who do you mean you people?!

DR. OVERTON

I mean you, and her, and
everybody in this class.

Kristen sits in class listening.

DR. OVERTON

I fear the future. I can't believe
this country is being left to a
generation that has no respect for
history, no sense of loyalty, no love
of the quality of perfection! Instead
you people are lazy, stubborn, and
ineffectual!

KRISTEN

You can't just make a blanket
statement like that! You don't know
what everyone in this class has gone
through!

DR. OVERTON

We all have our stories! The one your
generation is authoring is becoming a
tear jerker!

INT. CROW'S NEST - DAY

Where Malik sits with Fudge and some other Black students.

MALIK

Naw! He ain't about to come around here.
That'd take some nerve. He ain't got it.

FUDGE

You never know man.

He sees Dr. Overton walking through campus.

MALIK

Hey Dr. Overton!!

He gets up to intercept him.

DR. OVERTON

I'm in a hurry Mr. Williams.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK

Wait I wanna know something. ...Why did you go off like that in class today?

DR. OVERTON

(looks at him)

...You're too smart for keep considering yourself a victim. The only oppression you are experiencing is doubt. If you doubt yourself into thinking you're a victim you will always remain a victim.

MALIK

Listen! You gave a lecture about equal treatment under the law without knowing that one of them skinheads put a gun in my face! Right here! On this campus!

DR. OVERTON

I'm sorry didn't know. You alright?

MALIK

Its cool man.

(he sees Fudge looking at him)
Lets walk. My grades are fine, I just ...this is too much ...I'm sick of these people...

DR. OVERTON

Don't attempt to live a fantasy.
Information is power. If you don't have information you can't seize power!! Think about being mentally competitive!! Being Black does not free you from being a responsible individual.

MALIK

Being a responsible individual does not free you from being Black.

DR. OVERTON

Whats your next paper about?

MALIK

The Dred Scott decision of 1854 and how it affects contemporary African-American life. You ever heard of that?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DR. OVERTON

That was the law which stated no Black man had any rights that a white man was bound by law to respect.

MALIK

Don't you think it still holds true?

DR. OVERTON

No. Not anymore.

MALIK

(shakes his head)

Read my paper man. Maybe I can teach you something.

DR. OVERTON

Not unless you learn something first. Stop making excuses. And just do it. Nobody gets anywhere from whining. Look around here

(he walks off to his car)

INT. KRISTEN'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Where Monet is getting ready to go somewhere. Kristen wears a hat on her head.

KRISTEN

Monet. Look!

(pulls her hat up)

KRISTEN'S HAIR is in BRAIDS.

KRISTEN

You like it! Its different.

MONET

Real different.

KRISTEN

...You going to the BSU meeting?

MONET

Yeah.

KRISTEN

...You mind if I go?

MONET

(slightly surprised)

Its a free meeting.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN
You leaving right now?

MONET
I gotta a few errands to run first.
If you come wear a hat.

INT. BSU MEETING - DAY

Where Fudge stands in front of the gathered folks.

FUDGE
(wearing glasses)
Enough of this complaining and
talking around the subject! We
ain't about to start singing no
"We shall overcome!". This is a
new generation!

DOORWAY: Where Kristen enters. Her eyes search the room.

Everyone falls SILENT as they see this white girl with braids.

Monet holds her hand over her head as Kristen spots her and
walks over to the two empty seats next to Monet.

MONET
(to herself)
I told her to wear a hat.

FUDGE
Let me tell you what its about! If any
of you see security, any of these
skinheads, or any body disrespecting
our people. We need to get the
football players, the basketball team,
to just stop! We'd shut this school
down!

Everyone in the room CHEERS!! LOUDLY. In the back of the
room sit Malik and crew.

KRISTEN
I don't think thats right!
(crowd murmurs, she stands)
I don't think thats right! That's not
going to solve anything. It'll just lead
to more people getting hurt.

Monet attempts to make Kristen sit down.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN

(ignoring Monet)

I think there's a lot of things that you all are concerned with that are on the minds of some other student groups and if we just consolidate our efforts maybe

FUDGE (O.S.)

Sit down and shut up white girl!

Monet SIGHS.

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

Where Malik walks ALONE. Jason comes running up to him.

JASON

Why'd you move all your stuff out?

MALIK

I'm staying with some friends now. I'd figure you and David would want to room together.

JASON

Yeah but David doesn't even know if he's gonna be going to school here next semester.

INT. DAVID'S HOME - DAY

Where he sits with a blanket around him. His mother comes in and places a BOWL OF SOUP in front of him as he watches basketball on television.

JASON (V.O.)

He's all depressed. His parents have got him going to a shrink. I think he went off the deep end myself.

BACK TO SCENE

Where Malik finally stops walking and turns to talk to Jason.

MALIK

Listen Jay. I think you a cool white boy. We ain't ever had no beef outside of your dirty clothes and opposite tastes in music, but I'm at the point where

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

INT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Where everybody sits around watching the BASKETBALL GAME on television. There are mostly guys and more than a few girls. We PAN the room to see many faces FUDGE, MONET, A FEW STUDENTS and then end on MALIK who sits on the floor looking introspective.

MALIK (V.O.)

I feel more comfortable around my own people.

INT. SCOTT'S APARTMENT - DAY

Where Remy is an SLEEPING BAG doing tha nasty with a GIRL SKINHEAD. Some of his fellow skins walk playfully kicking him and playing some LOUD MUSIC.

MALIK (V.O.)

Shit, I didn't come to this godamn school to have no white boy put a gun in my face! I could have got that in the ghetto! If I ever see that fool again he's dead!

BACK TO SCENE:Where Jason takes this all in.

JASON

I understand you're pissed man but see I'm not like that. You treating me like I'm like Remy. I'm different. And so are you. We're different!

MALIK

(looks at him)

...No I'm not and neither are you. Thats the problem. ..Look all I'm saying is I gotta be around some Black folks for a while. This is how things end up anyway.

(gives him a pound)

Take care man. Maybe we can play pool sometime.

INT. DOHENY LIBRARY - DAY INTO NIGHT

Where Kristen studies. As we MOVE towards her we see people DISAPPEAR and she REMAINS. She gets tired. SMELLS under her arms. Time to go.

KRISTEN (V.O.)

It like the more I learn the more depressed I get. Its like you have to make a choice in life, be informed and miserable or ignorant and blissful.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

EXT. CAMPUS - NIGHT

Where Kristen walks with Taryn.

TARYN

You can't change the world. All you can do is be good to the people closest to you. And they should be good to those around them ...and hopefully a chain will be created.

KRISTEN

You really think so?

ANGLE ON WAYNE:WHO IS WALKING IN THE SPOT TARYN ONCE STOOD

WAYNE

You damn right. You should do something. I should do something! We all are responsible! You know that saying? It only takes one man to change the world? Well why not one woman?

INT. KRISTEN'S ROOM - NIGHT

Where she sits on her bed with Taryn. Taryn TOUCHES her leg.

KRISTEN

I like it that you understand me. There are things that I don't have to say because you understand.

Taryn LEANS in and KISSES Kristen.

CLOSE ON KRISTEN'S FACE as she sits back from the effect of the KISS. She looks SHY.

KRISTEN

That was nice.

ANGLE ON WAYNE:We see that she is talking to him.*On bed also.

WAYNE

I think you're nice.

He leans in to KISS her somemore. She TREMBLES a bit while they make out.

WAYNE

You're trembling. Are you scared?

Kristen THINKS.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN

Yes.

TARYN

Why? I won't hurt you.

KRISTEN

I know.

WAYNE

Are you ready?

KRISTEN

...Yes.

WAYNE

Wait.

He gets up and goes into his jacket pockets, revealing CONDOMS.

ANOTHER ANGLE: Where we go past her BED. And she makes love to someone. The CAMERA rises up and around and we see the covers come off and we see TARYN'S FACE. She they turn over and Kristen is on top.

KRISTEN on TOP as the CAMERA TILTS DOWN and we see Wayne.

TARYN: HER HEAD ON THE PILLOW she sits up to KISS KRISTEN.

CLOSE KRISTEN'S FACE as she comes into the frame and kisses Wayne.

THE BED as we PULL UP and away from it and Monet walks in the ROOM.

ANGLE KRISTEN: As she pulls the covers off her face in SHOCK.

CLOSE ON MONET'S FACE as she looks surprised then she walks into the ROOM.

MONET

I was hoping I wouldn't walk in on you and somebody. No telling what kind of shock I could get.

We PUSH IN ON Kristen in bed. Alone and half sleep. She gets up out of bed.

KRISTEN

I gotta do something.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

Where we see a female figure in silhouette KNOCKING AT THE DOOR. The CAMERA SWINGS AROUND and we see Taryn walk to the door rubbing sleep from her eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KRISTEN

(enters)

I'm sorry I woke you up, I know you have an early class, I just needed to talk with you.

Taryn stands with her arms folded.

TARYN

Its alright. I couldn't sleep anyway.

KRISTEN

I'm sorry about the other day. Youv'e been there for me so much. Its just...I don't know what I want. Is there anything wrong with that?

TARYN.

...Kristen. That guy? He's gonna hurt you!

KRISTEN

Don't say that!

TARYN

He's gonna hurt you just like that other guy did!! They always do!

KRISTEN

Don't say that! Its not true!

TARYN

Yes it is! I'm your friend. I wouldn't lie.

Suddenly, a figure emerges from the bedroom doorway. It is another girl. A Black one, thin, pretty, this is RENEE.

RENEE

Taryn? Oh hi Kristen.

Kristen looks at Taryn then to Renee and an ARROW goes straight through her feelings.

KRISTEN

...I'm sorry. ...Now I know how I made you feel.

(she leaves)

EXT. CAMPUS - DAWN

Where Kristen walks in the middle of campus. She watches the SUN go up over the buildings. She looks down at all the BLUE LIGHTS as they go into the distance. One by one they go off as she walks past them then she stops to look up as they go off in the distance.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A SECURITY CAR drives by close to Kristen. Officer Bradley is at the wheel.

OFFICER BRADLEY
You alright miss?

Kristen nods.

MONTAGE: Kristen talks various people, Asian students, Mexicans, Gay and Lesbian student union. Taryn folds her arms.

INT. UNIVERSITY VILLAGE: FOOD COURT - DAY

Kristen and Wayne sit together. They have just finished eating.

KRISTEN
It'll bring all sorts of people on campus together. So its all set for next week.

WAYNE
A LOVE IN? What is it kinda like Woodstock? Free love kind of thing?

KRISTEN
Yeah. Music, dancers, food, all kinds of things, it should be a blast. A big show! You done?

WAYNE
Yeah.

They RISE together. And begin walking outside.

WAYNE
You really think it'll change things?

KRISTEN
I don't know. But what you going to do nothing?
(she sees someone, nervous)
Hello.

The CAMERA SWINGS AROUND to reveal Fudge, food tray in hand.

FUDGE
Whats up?

Fudge walks onward and we PULL BACK with Fudge as he walks through the food court. He sees a PRETTY GIRL.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FUDGE

Hey! How you do on that stats test?

PRETTY GIRL

Oh don't even talk to me about that.

Fudge LAUGHS. We SWING AROUND on his side as he walks onward. He plays with the food on his tray as we TILT DOWN and he adjusts his food then we TILT BACK up to his face as he sees something ...

We SWING AROUND and MOVE INTO another where ERIK, the skinhead stands getting some food.

BACK TO FUDGE:As he reacts to this sight.

FUDGE'S P.O.V.:Where he sees Erik pick up a tray and walk around the corner where a the whole group of SKINHEADS including Remy.

Fudge THINKS then walks out of frame.

A TABLE:Where Remy sits eating a hamburger. He looks a bit more in control of things now. A worried gaze still covers his face. Erik sits next to him. They are separate from the rest of the group. Scott watches them as he sits with everyone else.

REMY

Why does he keep looking at me?

ERIK

He thinks you're trying to take over the group.

You worried about school?

REMY

No. I really didn't want to go anyway. I just had the grades and it was something to do. I gotta figure out what I'm gonna tell my dad.

(he looks up)

Suddenly, we see Fudge and the whole crew come around the corner. About eight brothers in force. They are evenly matched with the skinheads who have about ten in their group. *Music tenses up here.

CLOSE ON:FUDGE

CLOSE ON SCOTT

CLOSE ON REMY

CLOSE ON ERIK

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CLOSE ON DREADS

Then the MUSIC comes up to a crescendo and it STOPS. And gets MELODIC as there is no SOUND over the following images...

A BIG BRAWL that begins in one section of the food court and spreads all around. AFROS AND DREADLOCKS vs. SKINHEADS. Punches, chairs, and people are thrown. Blood is spilled. Security runs from the outside area. When Scott and Remy see the guards they run. Fudge looks at his FIST which has BLOOD on it. He wipes it with a napkin.

INT. FUDGE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Where Malik sits with Deja on the couch. They are listening to some soft music.

DEJA

I've never seen it this quiet here. Listen.

They pause.

MALIK

Nobody talking loud. Drinking. Fudge don't even study here. He go hiding up in the library about four hours each day. Won't even let nobody go with 'em.

DEJA

How long you gonna stay here?

MALIK

Til the end of the semester. That's if I stay here at all.

Suddenly, Fudge and crew troupe in force. Loudly!!!

FUDGE

We jumped on them skinheads! I beat down the one that pulled the gun on you.

MALIK

(hops up)

Damn!!! Oh Shit!! I shoulda been there...

They SHOUT loudly. Deja gets up from the noise and walks out onto the terrace. She rests her arms on the balcony. The violent shouting inside gets louder. Deja slowly closes the door behind her. And it is muffled.

INT. SCOTT'S APARTMENT - DAY

Where the posse of skinheads are gathered about in the living room. Scott throws beer from the refrigerator to some of the group. All of whom are nursing wounds.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Remy CATCHES a BEER and opens it taking a SWIG.

REMY

I don't care what you assholes say!
This is war! Tonight we just fought
the first battle in a war!

ERIK

Remy's right! Their gang against our gang!

REMY

Think of this as the prelude to the
ultimate battle between the races.
The white man versus all the people
who dirty this country! The niggers,
Jews, Mexicans, gooks...!

BACK FUDGE'S APARTMENT

Where Fudge kicks back playing Genesis Football against Malik.

MALIK

Damn!! I can't believe I wasn't there. I
woulda killed 'em. He'd be dead.

DREADS

Stomped this one dog! BOOM!!

FUDGE

Yeah and look what his buddy did to
the side of your face. Its cool man
y'all can talk all the shit you want
but no matter how much we beat they
ass they still win.

MALIK

How you figure?

FUDGE

Look around you dog. They own this
shit! This room, that couch you
sittin on, them shoes you wearing,
this building. The shit we put down
on them today don't even begin to
compare to the shit they put down on
us. I wouldn't be surprised if
security came in here and started
harassing y'all.

Nobody says anything.

BACK TO SKINHEADS

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REMY

We are being tested! Somebody, maybe
the Norse god of Vallhalla is testing
our will!

ERIK

Maybe the ghost of Hitler!

EVERYBODY

Yeah!

SCOTT

(in kitchen watching)

Shut up Remy!

Everyone falls SILENT.

SCOTT.

I'm tired of hearing you talk
bullshit! What are you gonna do?

REMY

I'm gonna make war!

All of the other guys fall silent and watch this exchange
between Remy and Scott. Who has the biggest balls?!

SCOTT

(gets in his face)

On who?! On who!!

REMY

(slurred)

Why are you testing me man?...

SCOTT

Have you ever shot someone?! Better yet!
Have you shot a piece of meat?! Seen the
mess that bullets can make on flesh?!
Those niggers out there, them gangbangers
are practicing on each other every day,
every night, and now they're ready for
war! Are you?!?

REMY

(confronts Scott, calmly)

I shot pigs back home at my
grandfather's farm and I damn sure
can shoot a nigger! Can you?!

CLOSE: SCOTT

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CLOSE:REMY:Serious.

SCOTT

Okay. Lets see. What you got! .

He leaves the room then comes back in with a HIGH POWERED RIFLE.

SCOTT

Okay, go kill a nigger!

FACES OF THE OTHER SKINHEADS:As they look worried.

SCOTT

You're a big man! Go ahead!

REMY

Gimme your duffel bag so I can break this down.

ERIK

You really gonna do it Remy?

REMY

(working the gun)
Yeah.

SCOTT

This is a war! If any of you assholes are closet faggots and want out leave now!! ...We're going to formulate a plan to get back at them niggers, the faggots, the Jews!! And everybody else!! I'm tired of hearing talk, talk, talk, I want to see some action!!! Right!?

They CHEER him on! Scott stands with his arms folded. The noise of their cheers transcends us into the next scene.

EXT. COLUMBUS UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - LOVE IN '94 - DAY

Music, food, dancing. A festival of diversity. There are AFRICAN DANCERS, MEXICAN DANCERS, A GROUP OF CHINESE KICKBOXERS do a demonstration.

Kristen walks around admiring her triumph.

HER P.O.V.: Where we see the AFRICAN DANCERS merge with the Mexican dancers, musicians merge in tone also. Several students begin to join in. Some with rhythm others without soul.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANGLE:ON MALIK AND DEJA

As they walk together.He kisses Deja on the cheek. As they watch the KICKBOXING EXHIBITION.

A WALKIE-TALKIE is pulled out of a pocket as it RISES to reveal ERIK.

ERIK

Viking three to Viking Two. Are you there?

INT. DOHENY LIBRARY - DAY

AN EMPTY HALLWAY:As Remy walks up the stairs. Duffel bag in hand. He stops when he hears his walkie.

REMY

(pulling out his radio)

Yeah. Viking Three?

BACK TO MALIK

ERIK (V.O.)

Have you arrived at your perch yet?

A kickboxer makes contact in the foreground as Malik looks on.

BACK TO REMY

REMY

No. And I'm going to have to kill communication because this looks suspicious.

ANOTHER HALL:Where Remy walks an FBI cap covering his baldhead. A security guard comes around the corner.

REMY

Hey man.

OFFICER BRADLEY

Hi. What are you doing here on a nice Saturday afternoon?

REMY

(guarded, then calm)

I've got so much to study. Engineering is a hard major.

OFFICER BRADLEY

(walks off)

Yeah, all right kid.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REMY

You want to see my ID?

OFFICER BRADLEY

(walks away)

Naw go ahead do what you gotta do.

(he stops)

...And hey kid ...make that grade ...and
make this country a better place.

REMY

(looks at him)

Thank you sir. I will.

He turns the corner takes off his hat revealing his BALDHEAD
and he runs up the hall.

BACK TO FESTIVAL

INT. DR.OVERTON'S OFFICE - DAY

Where he is grading papers. He reads Malik's paper.

MALIK (V.O.)

It is my belief that if the Dread Scott
decision was retried in the contemporary
American courts, the decision would
remain the same. Meaning that a Black
man, no matter what his class status
would still have no rights that a white
man by law would be bound to respect.
The result would be the same no matter
the law of the land states because it
was not written by and for the benefit
of African-Americans. It is this
hipocracy that undermines the American
judical system

Dr. Overton looks out at the people in the festival.

A PLATFORM:Where Kristen prepares a give a speech. Taryn
helps her with her notes which fly out of a manila folder.

KRISTEN

You got it?

TARYN

Yeah.

Kristen looks up from gathering her papers to see Wayne
walking through the crowd. She smiles then looks over at
Taryn who FROWNS.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

INT. DOHENY LIBRARY - NIGHT

Where Remy begins assembling the high powered rifle.
As he does he mumbles to himself.

Dr. Overton comes out of the building. He takes an interest
in the event going on.

The SKINHEADS are walking around the corner of a building.
They see two gay men together and they jump on them.

THE PLATFORM:Where Kristen begins to SPEAK.

KRISTEN

Okay. All right, we'll begin the music
again in a moment. I just have some
things to say.

THE CROWD:Gathers near the stage.

KRISTEN

A lot of people said this couldn't be done!

We see the faces of the people in the crowd. There are male and
female students, African-American, Caucasian, Hispanic, Asian,
gay and straight. Over these faces we hear Kristen's voice.

KRISTEN (V.O.)

The purpose of this gathering is to
bring together everyone on this campus
so that we can have fun despite our
differences whether they be racial,
sexual, cultural or whatever.

Kristen's speech goes on as it is lowered and we hear the following
images.

The SKINHEADS kicking one of the men on the ground and
CHASING the other guy and WRESTLING HIM to the ground.

EXT. A WINDOW - DAY

Where we ZOOM into Remy who sits looking out.

INT. LIBRARY TOWER - DAY

Suddenly, we hear a jet engine in the air. The tension RISES.

CLOSE:Remy's face as he takes his CROSS and KISSES it. 36 f.p.s.

THE SKY:Where a JUMBO JET approaches.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He takes AIM.

BACK ON CAMPUS: A security patrol car sees the SKINHEADS jumping on the two guys and the two officers go into action. The skinheads seeing the two guards get up and RUN.

GUN SIGHT P.O.V.: Where he STROBES ACROSS THE CROWD.

THE CROWD: Where a group of homosexual men stand together.

BACK TO REMY: WHO PUTS DOWN HIS GUN. He hears the walkie-talkie. Viking Two!!! Attack!!! Viking Two!!! Attack!! We PUSH INTO the radio.

CLOSE UP: SCOTT: RUNNING

SCOTT
Shoot!! Remy!! Shoot!!!

Back to Remy: Who picks up his gun.

BACK TO SKY: Where the plane crosses making a large noise.

KRISTEN as the SOUND of the PLANE COVERS her VOICE.

Dr. Overton looks up at the PLANE.

Remy looks up at the plane then down into the GUNSIGHT. He gets one of them in his gunsight. BOOM!!!

BACK TO CROWD: Where someone in that group falls. Friends surround him.

MALIK WITH DEJA: He looks at her.

MALIK
You hear that?!

DEJA
What the plane?

MALIK
No a shot!

ANGLE ON: THE MAN'S FACE

He is in PAIN. He looks down to see a BLOODY HOLE in his T-Shirt.

MAN
I've been shot!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANOTHER MAN
Stop fucking around!

THE STAGE:Where Kristen reacts to the commotion in the crowd.

KRISTEN
So with that let the festival begin!!
Tell them to start the music back up.

Some of the groups begin performing again.

BACK TO MALIK AND DEJA

MALIK
I know a shot when I hear one, shit
believe me.

GUNSIGHT P.O.V.:Where Remy searches the crowd. He finds
Malik in his sight.

ANGLE ON:REMY'S FACE:He takes AIM.

DEJA
Your nerves are jumpy. Calm down baby.

MALIK
(smiles)
I love you.

DEJA
I love you too.

He turns Deja and KISSES her. She walks away but he grabs her
HAND she smiles at him from arm's length and then BOOM!! We see
her get shot from the side. *SLOW MOTION. 36 f.p.s.

BACK TO WINDOW

Where Remy looks into the crowd for more victims.

THE CROWD SCATTERS!!!

WAYNE PULLS KRISTEN OFF THE PLATFORM

FUDGE AND THE PACK SEE MALIK AND MAKE THEIR WAY TOWARDS HIM.

FUDGE LOOKS AROUND TO SEE WHERE THE SHOTS ARE COMING FROM.

MALIK SITS WITH DEJA CRADLED IN HIS ARMS. HE CRIES!!

REMY SHOOTS ONCE MORE

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Taryn runs into the crowd.

Hearing more GUNFIRE Malik picks up Deja and begins RUNNING with her body for cover. Dr. Overton makes his way to Malik and Deja.

MALIK

We have to get her to a hospital!

RUNNING:MALIK LOOKS AROUND:Move in on his face.

MALIK'S P.O.V.: HE LOOKS ACROSS THE WAY AND SEES A GLINT OF METAL IN THE LIBRARY BUILDING. The gunman! He takes her behind the pillar of a building.

MALIK

(looking down at Deja and up)

You're gonna be alright baby. Gimme some head.

They touch FOREHEADS. Malik KISSES her TENDERLY.

Malik gets up.

MALIK

Take care of her. Get her some help.

DR. OVERTON

Where are you going?! Malik!

DEJA

Malik! Don't leave me!

Malik looks from library then to Deja. He runs over to her KISSES her then runs towards the library. 36 f.p.s.

ANGLE ON:Deja as we PULL AWAY from her.

THE CROWD:Where Kristen looks around for Taryn. Wayne has his protective arm around her shoulder.

Taryn looks for Kristen also. Shouting out her name.

ANGLE ON:The bloody body of the gay man that was shot as it is carried past Kristen and we TILT UP to her face. She CRIES. Wayne begins to CONSOLE her.

CLOSE on Taryn as she looks around then sees.

TARYN'S P.O.V.:Wayne HUGGING Kristen.

BACK TO TARYN:She is DEVASTATED.

TELEPHOTO LENSE:As we see Malik running from a afar as we PULL BACK TO REVEAL REMY LOOKING AT HIM. Remy picks up the walkie-talkie.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

REMY

Viking One! Scott?! Erik?! Where are you guys?! (looking at the crowds of people running) What have I done?

CLOSER:AS MALIK RUNS TOWARDS THE LIBRARY.

HIGH ANGLE:As Malik runs into the library and we PAN over to Remy who sees him run inside. Remy THINKS then packs up to leave. We can see he is in a PANICKED STATE OF MIND.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Where Malik comes into the front of the building he looks around. Where to go? Malik gets his bearings then makes a LEFT and goes up the stairs.

THE STAIRCASE:Where Remy RUNS fast DOWN the stairs.

LOWER STAIRCASE;Malik goes UP the staircase.

WE CROSSCUT THE TWO OF THEM A FEW TIMES AND THEN, BOOM!!
THEY MEET!!!

BOTH OF THEM STAND IN SHOCK FOR A MOMENT

REMY TURNS TO RUN

MALIK RUNS UP AND IS ON REMY'S ASS!!! HE PUNCHES HIM!!

OUTSIDE:THE CROWD IS RUNNING IN EVERY DIRECTION

BACK IN THE LIBRARY

Where Malik and Remy fight on the stairs.

MALIK

You white muthafucka!!! I ma kill you!!!

REMY

I didn't mean to...

THEY FALL DOWN THE STAIRS. Malik HURTS his leg on the stairs and he WINCES in PAIN. Remy gets up in PAIN. He stands over Malik.

REMY

Man I'm sorry! I didn't know what I was doing! I know I tried to kill you but ...I didn't mean it! I...I was ..confused man ...

CLOSE ON MALIK'S FACE:He can't take it anymore.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Malik JUMPS up and POUNCES on Remy.

STOMP!!! And Malik sits over Remy hitting him in the face.

MALIK'S HEAD: As he hits Remy then POW!!! Malik gets hit in the back.

ANGLE ON: FIVE UNIVERSITY SECURITY GUARDS as they are on the stairs. Two of them begin to beat on Malik like Rodney King with their STICKS.

One of the guards attempts to help Remy up but he gets up and RUNS upstairs DUFFEL BAG in hand.

Malik as they hit him with sticks and put him in HANDCUFFS.

MALIK

You stupid muthafuckas!!!
He shot my girlfriend!!!

They look at each other. Then two guards run upstairs.

THE STAIRS: As they come up and turn the corner!!!

We SWING AROUND to reveal Remy with his 9mm pointed at the guards.

REMY

I didn't mean it ...

GUARD

Give us the gun kid.

Malik runs up restrained by the guards.

MALIK

You dead!!! You dead muthafucka!!! Let
me go!!

He sees Remy with the gun and stops.

REMY

(putting the gun to his head)
I didn't want to do this. ...I wish I
woulda just went to class. I coulda been
engineer....

BLAM!!!

CLOSE: THE GUARDS FACES

They look on in shock!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK looks on in shock. The guards loosen their grip as he WIPES some of the spattered blood off his face. And we PAN OVER TO REVEAL Remy against the wall. The BACK OF HIS HEAD IS BLOWN OUT!!! HIS BRAINS ARE SPREAD ALL OVER THE WALL!!!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LIBRARY - DAY *ONE SHOT

SLOW MOTION

Where Malik walks down the STEPS. His shirt BLOODY. He is visibly upset and in shock. He comes stops on the stairs and sees ...

DR.OVERTON

Who approaches the library. *Students running in b.g. .

MALIK FACE where he looks at Dr. Overton. "Is Deja alright?"

DR.OVERTON'S FACE; Says, "She's gone."

Malik turns and walks away from Dr. Overton.

Dr. Overton walks towards Malik placing his hand on Malik's shoulder for reassurance. Malik brushes him off once then the second time Dr.Overton touches him he turns around with his FISTS bared! Dr.Overton persists and puts a reassuring protective arm around Malik.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MIDDLE OF CAMPUS - LATER - NIGHT

Where a CHANNEL EIGHT newsvan sets up a camera crew. A REPORTER looks into the camera and talks to the news audience.

REPORTER

This is Columbus University, that prestigious institution of higher learning that today has witnessed tragedy. The day began with good intentions a student sponsored event ... a LOVE IN reminiscent of WOODSTOCK or the US FESTIVAL ended with three people dead. One of them the gunman who shot himself after killing two students.

INT. SCOTT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Where all the skinheads sit up looking at the news. They are all QUIET. The newscast goes on to the weather and they look at each other in SILENCE.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCOTT
(surprised)
He did it! The little bastard did it.

ERIK
Hardcore dude!

SILENCE. Then Scott breaks the ice.

SCOTT
White power!!! White power!!! Zieg heil!

They all join in on the chant and the volume rises as we go away from these fools and transcend into the next scene.

EXT. THE TRACK - DAY

SLOW MOTION

Where Deja runs over some HURDLES. *Different angles.

THE FINISH LINE:Where Deja crosses and runs into Malik's arms. They KISS.

CLOSE:MALIK

CLOSE:DEJA:

ANOTHER ANGLE

As Deja KISSES Malik. She backs away from Malik and TURNS and RUNS back up the track which is now CLEAR NO HURDLES IN SIGHT.

INT. DR. OVERTON'S CLASS - DAY

ANGLE ON MALIK: We PULL BACK AWAY FROM HIM

He comes out of his daze and looks down to write some more in his BLUE BOOK.

WIDER:Where we see people taking the class FINAL. Kristen and Malik are among five students left.

KRISTEN:Who looks almost shell shocked. She slowly gets up to leave. A TA collects the test. Kristen drops her notebook and picks it up on the way out.

MALIK:Gets up to leave also. As he hits the stairs he hears his name.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DR. OVERTON
Mr. Malik Williams!

MALIK
(turns)
What?

DR. OVERTON
Come down here. I'd like to talk to you.
Malik relents. He wants to walk out.

DR. OVERTON
Please...
Malik comes forward.

DR. OVERTON
Listen, you don't have to drop out of school.

MALIK
What makes you think I'm gonna drop out?
Don't feel sorry for me.

DR. OVERTON
Cause I see it on your face.
Listen if you want to continue
to attend this university I'm
willing to help you find a way.
Don't become a statistic.

MALIK
I'm nobody's statistic. And I'm not
sure even sure I want the kind of
education you're talking about.

DR. OVERTON
You're smarter than that. You know it
I know it.

MALIK
I gotta go.

He WALKS back towards the STAIRS.

DR. OVERTON
Haven't you learned anything this
semester?! Are you just gonna give up?!
I'm giving you a chance!

Malik turns.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK

I don't need your chance! Anything I get in life I gotta take! That's what I learned here! I don't expect you to understand!

DR. OVERTON

But I do understand.

MALIK

Why?! Why would you understand?!

DR. OVERTON

Because I'm Black! And despite what you may think just because we share different philosophies I'm not the kind of Black man that would hang his own people! That is my definition of a "sellout" and it does not apply to me! You need to take this scholarship! I'm not asking you to conform! I'm offering you an opportunity to grow!

Malik PAUSES then he walks up and out the door.

DR. OVERTON

(sighs)

Another one bites the dust.

(he closes his briefcase)

Dr.Overton looks at the TA.

DR.OVERTON

Place those in the top file cabinet marked 101 Finals.

INT. POLITICAL SCIENCE BUILDING - DAY

ANGLE ON Dr. Overton as he walks out of the CLASS. He turns a corner and Malik is standing there. Malik wipes a TEAR away. They look at each other then SHAKE hands.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MIDDLE OF CAMPUS - DAY

The area is all clean. A soft Santa Ana wind BLOWS through the middle of campus. We hear the song "The Christmas Song" sung by Nat King Cole. It echoes eerily through the following images:

We MOVE INTO Kristen who watches this. The emptiness.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Malik walks up. He stands there quiet also.

MALIK

The folks that organized this were
trying to bring people together. All it
takes is one fool to fuck things up.
...I lost somebody I loved here.

KRISTEN

(breaks down crying)

I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. Please
forgive me!

THE CLOCK TOWER BEGINS TO RING. BONG!!

MALIK

Why?

KRISTEN

(crying)

Because I put this thing together and
all this happened and I shouldn't go
around thinking I could change the
world and people would be cool with
each other just because my little
self from Orange County wished it
could be so.

Malik watches her CRY. Then he puts out his HAND and gives
her a HUG. Malik looks around. PAIN IN HIS EYES.

BONG!!!

Kristen stops CRYING she wipes her TEARS away.

KRISTEN

My name's Kristen

MALIK

Malik.

KRISTEN

Nice to meet you.

MALIK

Yeah I seen you around.

KRISTEN

In class yeah. ...Its funny we never spoke before.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MALIK

Yeah.

MALIK

Well gotta go. See ya.

KRISTEN

Take care.

MALIK

(he walks away then turns)

At least there's no class.

Kristen nods then looks around and walks off.

BONG!!!

EXT. TRACK FIELD - DAY

EMPTY AND BARREN. We hear WIND flowing through the lanes.

EXT. DOUGLASS FIELD - DAY

Where the BAND plays the National Anthem.

ANGLE ON KRISTEN: Walking.

ANGLE ON MALIK: Who WALKS then slowly begins to JOG then he breaks into a RUN. BONG!!!

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

Where we watch Dr. Overton walk OVERHEAD then we let him leave frame and rise up to reveal the AMERICAN FLAG. We PUSH IN on this image then

BONG!!!: BLACK SCREEN

THE END